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**Trisha A. Morgan**

**From:** schotin1@gmail.com on behalf of Sanford Chotiner <sanford.chotiner@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 25, 2013 5:47 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web; Burns-Web; BitterSmith-Web; Stump-Web; RBurns-Web  
**Cc:** Norma Chotiner; sandy setters; Sharon and Nancy; Madonna Glazier  
**Subject:** Arizona Corporation Commission Net Metering  
**Attachments:** Net\_Metering.pdf; Need to have Net Metering.doc

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Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

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I am writing this e-mail note to you all as a concerned citizen. I have had rooftop solar as of October 2012. I did this for many reasons as a retired senior citizen living in a retirement community. Obviously one of the primary reasons was to lock in a reasonable cost of energy. There were numerous others as this appear to me to be obviously the right thing to do in a state that has an abundance of sunshine, need for clean energy, the environment and general, long-term use of our resources. I also realized as time went on after having the installation; that this activity generates better than average jobs for Arizona citizens and helps the overall economy of the state.

I have read a number of different articles on the positive attributes of net metering and I am attaching the one from the Arizona Republic that one of the readers put the opinion section and a Word document of some information on why we should have been metering from the Internet. These are short collateral information that better articulate my point of view.

I am concerned that the utility companies and APS and SRP are putting out disinformation on the television broadcast that distort and actually completely lie about the realities of net metering and rooftop solar. The inference that we are stealing money from the other non-solar customers is pure hogwash. This concerns me as I

am assuming that the utilities are presenting information to you, just as bogus, just like an attorney doing a plan B to try to get his client off.

I have up to now, been very proud of the state of Arizona for taking such a lead in solar energy. I hope that my note gets read and that you continue your good works and keep net metering in place. The utility companies operate with little or no risk and are guaranteed to make a profit. I hope you take your responsibility to the citizens and see that the overall good of the state in your decision.

Sincerely

Sanford Chotiner

Buckeye Arizona

The writing is on the wall: clean and reliable rooftop solar, energy efficiency, and smart grid technologies are here to revolutionize the grid. But instead of looking to get ahead of these trends, many utilities are digging in and defending their business-as-usual approach. These utilities make a guaranteed rate of return on infrastructure, including power plants and transmission lines. As a result, utilities continue to invest in conventional dirty energy resources that may become obsolete well before the plants will be retired. Some utilities are looking to slow the growth of rooftop solar by claiming that net metering shifts big costs onto non-solar ratepayers. In a recent one-sided article in Bloomberg, for example, the three big California utilities alleged net metering is costing non-solar ratepayers \$1.3 billion, but gave no details on how they arrived at that staggeringly high number.

The fact is, the utilities' net metering math doesn't add up. The calculations inflate the cost side of the equation, while leaving a rather important piece out of the cost-benefit analysis: the benefits. By using fuzzy math to put net metering on trial in the press, these utilities hope to convince policymakers to put a halt to common-sense solar policies.

What's needed is a rational dialogue among the stakeholders, and an accurate and comprehensive look at the economic impacts of net metering, considering all the costs and benefits. To that end, Vote Solar commissioned Crossborder Energy, a consulting firm, to conduct a new analysis for ratepayers of the three big California utilities. The results show that net metering actually provides a system-wide net financial benefit to non-solar ratepayers, not a cost as the utilities assert.

In total, the non-solar ratepayers of all three IOUs will save more as more net metered systems are installed, up to about \$92 million per year once we reach the current 5 percent net metering cap.

Why are these numbers so different from the utility claims? Well, not only did Crossborder Energy analysts look accurately at the costs side of the ledger, but they also counted all the well-documented benefits that net-metered generation brings to the grid. Those benefits include avoiding the cost of purchasing expensive conventional plants and fuel, reducing the need for investments in wires, reducing the power lost over those wires, and avoiding costs associated with meeting carbon and renewable energy requirements. Net Metering's benefits to the grid outweigh the lost revenue from net metering bill credits. It's actually solar customers as a group that are subsidizing non-solar customers as a group.

For many utilities, rooftop solar represents a threat to traditional business models. But the people want it, the grid needs it, and it's helping us take on some of our greatest challenges.

Utilities will have to adapt to a 21st-century energy landscape with new regulatory structures and initiatives, innovative business models, and modernized practices making way for ubiquitous distributed energy.

Rio Rico

### Solar plan is outrageous

As an owner of a rooftop solar unit and an engineer working in the energy business for 49 years, I object to Arizona Public Service Co. wanting to scrap its net-metering program ("APS: Solar bills too low," *Republic*, Friday).

When you generate excess power, above your own needs, you pass the power back into the grid. APS sells that power at retail rates to your neighbors that have not installed a rooftop solar unit.

The APS proposal amounts to paying you less than 5 cents per kilowatt-hour and selling it to your neighbor for 17 cents per kilowatt-hour for a 240 percent or more profit. This profit comes with virtually no costs to APS.

By any measure, this return on their own investment would be considered outrageously excessive. It is even more outrageous when this return is on your investment, not theirs.

The rest of their arguments seem to ignore that the only part of the APS grid being used in this transaction is a few hundred feet between you and your neighbor, and the rooftop unit is generating excess power when its grid is at its peak strain. You are thereby relieving the stress on the grid.

— Paul Dodge, Mesa

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— Joe Schmid

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