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August 7, 2013

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Bob Burns, Brenda Burns, Gary Pierce, Susan Bitter Smith, Bob Stump  
Commissioners  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Dear Commissioners:

We are writing to express our great dismay with the recent announcements from Arizona Public Service with regard to changes in their rooftop solar net metering program.

One of the key factors in our purchase of a home in Trilogy at Vistancia with a Shea Homes solar roof tile package was the ability to have a grid interlock and sell back power into the system during the months we do not reside in Arizona nor greatly use APS' grid power resources.

We felt encouraged that both APS and Shea supported green energy, and were willing to encourage homeowners to do their part in this developing technology.

Now we're left holding the bag on approximately thirty thousand dollars of soon to be swiftly depreciated solar roof tiles and inverter due to the proposed changes in net metering, potential surcharges for solar customers, and a ludicrous one-owner grandfathering scheme that will only apply to us if we are to live in our home for twenty years.

In essence APS' plans will immediately render our system useless to potential buyers and materially ruin substantial value of the new home we purchased.

Solar credits we now generate will be erased by proposed user surcharges, and a promising technology will be set back another few decades in a state replete with the most critical factor - abundant sun!

You need to understand that APS benefits mightily from the fact that we as homeowners chose to purchase, on our own, power generation assets and then sell power back to the grid.

You also need to understand that for this power, supplied at peak summer usage times, APS is beholden to zero maintenance or staffing costs, zero repair or replacement costs, and zero bonding and debt service costs.

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Further this power strengthens the grid in times of potential brownout, reduces the workload for power regulators, and comes with not the slightest local environmental nor air quality costs.

For these reasons, and for the massive equity hit our home will take should these promises we were made and acted in good faith upon be withdrawn, we strongly oppose this backwardation of the support of clean distributed grid energy and the attendant monetary damages we will incur through no fault of our own.

We remind you that APS touted themselves as a pioneer in this medium, to the point that their own website reveals:

<http://azenergyfuture.com/energy-issues/solar-leadership/>

*“Arizona Public Service (APS) has done more than any other company to promote the growth of the solar industry in the state. During the last six decades, APS has worked to pioneer the advancement and adoption of solar energy by:*

- Facilitating the first national solar conference in the U.S. in 1955
- Opening the APS Solar Test and Research (STAR) Center in Tempe in 1985
- Creating partnerships with companies such as First Solar and SunEdison for the construction of large-scale plants across Arizona
- *Encouraging customers to install rooftop solar on their homes or businesses*
- Through a pilot project in Flagstaff, studying ways to *ready neighborhood grids for a future when more and more residents have rooftop solar*
- Committing to buy 100 percent of the power output from the 250-MW Solana Generating Station near Gila Bend

APS ranked fourth among American electric utilities for the most solar megawatts added to its system in 2012. By the end of 2013, the amount of solar power in the APS portfolio will surpass 700 megawatts, enough to power the homes of 175,000 Arizona customers. **All this will help us meet the state’s mandate that regulated utilities derive 15 percent of their electricity from renewable energy sources by 2025.** We are proud of our leadership in solar energy and want to ensure it continues to thrive in Arizona for our partners, our customers and our environment.”

Now it appears all too clear that APS simply used residential customers to pay down the costs of its renewables mandate and wishes to discard us having now met their goals.

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This is completely unacceptable and morally unconscionable.

Why must we as responsible and forward thinking customers be punished for supplying power?

Are those who undergo APS energy audits and improve insulation values in their homes also punished for using less energy?

We are good customers who took this company and this state at their word when they asked us to help provide renewable energy in Arizona.

Please don't destroy the value of our home and power generation investment because we took you both at your word.

Sincerely,

Ann Kintner

Christopher Kintner