

E-01345A-13-0248

ORIGINAL



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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

RECEIVED

Investigator: Jenny Gomez

2013 AUG 13 A 9:43
Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Opinion No. 2013 - 112174

Date: 8/12/2013

Complaint Description: 19Y Net Metering
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: First: Claudia Last: Fontaine

Account Name: Claudia Fontaine Home: (000) 000-0000

Street: n/a Work:

City: n/a CBR:

State: AZ Zip: n/a is:

Utility Company: Arizona Public Service Company

Division: Electric

Contact Name: For assignment

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-13-0248
OPPOSE

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

AUG 13 2013

From: Claudia Fontaine [mailto:]
Sent: Saturday, August 10, 2013 8:19 AM
To: Utilities Div - Mailbox
Subject: Solar NOT Being SUBSIDIZED

DOCKETED BY
ne

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing as a customer of APS who invested a lot of our retirement savings to install a solar system on our house. The rules said that all power generated by our solar system must be added to the power grid. It will take years before we see a complete payoff of that investment for our solar system. In the meantime, APS (a monopoly) is using our solar system's generated power.

The reason we chose to install a solar system was because the only time I ever believed words from the mouth of the current occupant of the White House was when he said that under his regime, electricity costs would "necessarily skyrocket." As a senior citizen, I knew we needed to take steps that would help us to survive financially in our waning years on this earth. It turned out to be a wise move, or so we thought, because costs for everything are "skyrocketing", and our household income remains fixed. My husband has many health issues which increasingly drain our fixed monthly income.

APS has recently tacked onto our bill an "Account Service Charge" because apparently our generating electricity for APS is seen as a financial deficit by APS. Added to that, we received a letter from APS telling us that we who generate power for APS, we who have invested OUR OWN MONEY to generate power for APS, are being "subsidized" by folks who have not invested anything to generate power for APS, and somehow the word FAIRNESS has crept into the topic at hand.

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The highly esteemed economist Thomas Sowell has written:

"A very versatile term in political vocabulary is 'fairness.' Some want a definition of what today is deemed "fair." But a concrete definition would destroy the versatility of the word, which is what makes it so useful politically. Life in general has never been even close to fair, so the pretense that a government can make it fair is an inexhaustible asset to politicians who want more government."

I find Mr. Sowell's words to be both wise and appropriate in this regard. The insertion of the words "subsidize" and "fairness" into APS billing practices is absolutely inappropriate. Perhaps what might be "FAIR" would be to require those who have not installed solar systems to do so immediately so as to equalize or make fair contributions to the power grid for all who use it. Would that not be FAIR?

What I see happening at APS is a Washington D.C. mindset which whines that there is never enough money being confiscated from the pockets of the so-called "rich", and there must be more confiscated from the commoners as well. As a senior citizen on a fixed income-whose annual earnings during my final working years prior to our retiring from Massachusetts to Arizona reached its peak far below \$45,000, and whose husband's health issues prevented his ability to earn half that much as a truck driver-the word "rich" cannot be applied to this household, especially now that we are in our 70s dealing with serious health issues.

If APS gets its way to raise our electric rates, not only will we be paying higher rates out of our current retirement income, but we'll have essentially wasted our investment for the solar system. How is that FAIR?

I resent APS efforts through ads and various media to convince non-solar customers of APS that solar customers are somehow being subsidized by them. This is a divisive tactic utilized to destroy this country by the person in the White House, and he's certainly accomplished his goal in that regard. APS seems to want to pit people against each other here in Arizona. I view the tactic by ALL who utilize it as the lowest form of coercion and indoctrination. JUST STOP IT!

Most Sincerely,
Claudia Fontaine
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Noted and filed for the record in Docket Control.
End of Comments

Date Completed: 8/12/2013

Opinion No. 2013 - 112174

E-01345A-13-0248

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Carmen Madrid

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2013 - 112190

Date: 8/12/2013

Complaint Description: 19Y Net Metering
08A Rate Case Items - Opposed

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Steve Ferguson

Account Name: Maria Ferguson

Home: ()

Street:

Work: (000) 000-0000

City: Phoenix

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 85024

is: E-Mail

Utility Company: Arizona Public Service Company

Division: Electric

Contact Name: For assignment

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

APS wants to charge solar customers for "grid fees". Instead it appears they want to find a way to charge for electricity they are not producing or are responsible for.

The fact that solar customers are generating power means APS does not have to generate as much power and thusly have a production cost reduction and less load on "their grid" which translates to less maintenance.

Now they want a double dipping on this power they are not responsible for.

Solar customers pay the same fees as everyone else for their connection to the grid and power they purchase from APS.

Their advertising says they want people to "go green" and "help save in the production of energy". Then they turn around and demand "now pay us for spending your money to help produce power". This attitude is very dangerous and needs to be stopped here and now with a very strong statement against this kind of practice.

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

8/12/13 Opinion noted and filed in Docket No. E-01345A-13-0248. closed

End of Comments

Date Completed: 8/12/2013

Opinion No. 2013 - 112190

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM
