

E-01345A-13-0248

ORIGINAL



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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMM

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Tom Davis

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Arizona Corporation Commission

Opinion No. 2013 - 112435

Date: 8/26/2013

DOCKETED

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

AUG 27 2013

Complaint By: First: Brian Last: Murphy

DOCKETED BY
nr

Account Name: Brian Murphy

Street:

Work: 000-0000

City: Goodyear

State: AZ Zip: 85395

RECEIVED
2013 AUG 21 A 10:37
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL
is:

Utility Company: Arizona Public Service Company

Division: Electric

Contact Name: For assignment

Nature of Complaint:

OPPOSED

E-01345A-13-0248

ELECTRIC

Subject: APS proposed solar changes

Dear Commission Members:

My name is Brian Murphy and I live in Goodyear, AZ where I am an APS customer. I am also a solar user and concerned about APS and their plans to change the way future solar users are compensated. We presently have a solar array that allows for our APS bill to be significantly reduced over the course of the last several months. The system is approaching a year of use at which point we will know the true benefit of our system.

We presently lease the system as we wanted to have a fixed electric bill, much like our fixed mortgage. Utility bills will only rise as energy continues to become more expensive over the long term. APS would like to change the way all future users of this program are compensated. This would not only affect our plan to have as close to a fixed utility bill as possible, but also seriously impact any future plans to sell our home. This plan will impact the buying decisions of new owners. At the suggested price of \$50-\$100 a month this would effectively remove any benefit a prospective buyer would have when looking at our home. While we have no plans to move, there is no doubt this would be an impact to our ability to sell. Depending on mortgage rates at the time this could be the difference of \$25,000 or more in purchase power. This may impact our decision should we need to move to a new home as well. We may avoid a solar home to avoid the APS imposed fees.

Aside from the monthly costs this proposed plan will directly affect Arizona based companies. Harmond Electric installed our system and did a fantastic job. Losing a company such as this because of APS changes would be a shame. APS would have you believe that this program only benefits the affluent. I strongly disagree. My system had no out of pocket costs and monthly lease payment is actually less than my APS bill was. I only needed good credit, which should be a criteria of any major purchase.

Prior to this plan APS spent millions on an advertising campaign to encourage the adoption of solar. Residential

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solar was needed to help APS meet state mandated renewable energy demands, as you all should be aware. Mr. Steve Nash, former Suns basketball player, profited nicely with an undisclosed sum of taxpayer money. A fact proven by an article from FOX 10 and a quote from Jim McDonald of APS,

Both the utilities deny the claim, saying their intentions are only to encourage people to save energy. APS says they got results in an ad featuring former Suns guard, Steve Nash. "Steve Nash, was he paid for these ads, yes he was," confirms McDonald. But he can't say how much. But APS says Nash helped them meet their energy goals, required by the state

Read more: <http://wjbk.membercenter.worldnow.com/story/20489996/2013/01/02/aps-srp-explain-huge-advertising-costs#ixzz2d1wVrlgR>

People like myself helped APS reach their much needed state mandate for renewable energy. Now they want their money back, all while making false claims stating they have the needs of the consumer in mind. Perhaps they can get a refund from Mr. Nash to help demonstrate their concern. This plan is being placed on the backs of consumers at the risk of local Arizona jobs, economics, and future real estate transactions. Arizona can be a leader in a growing industry. The commission can help continue that push forward, or bow to the executives of APS. I urge you to tell APS no changes to the current agreement will be allowed.

Sincerely,

Brian Muroh

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

8/26/13: Entered for the record and docketed

CLOSED

End of Comments

Date Completed: 8/26/2013

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