OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



November 8th, 2013

Commissioner Susan Bitter-Smith Commissioner Bob Burns Commissioner Brenda Burns Commissioner Gary Pierce 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

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Arizona Corporation Commission Chairman Bob Stump



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Dear Chairman Stump and Commissioners:

As a business owner of a full service renewable energy project developer and installer in Arizona, we are concerned about recent trends in our industry concerning net-metering, renewable energy rebates, and conflicting adds in the media. Our perception is the utility companies in Arizona, with APS in the lead role, are trying to eliminate the competitive marketplace of alternative energy sources and specifically diminish the value of residential roof top solar as an option for electricity rate payers making solar unattractive to end users as a value proposition. The result of these tactics are making companies like ours have to abandon residential solar as a product offering and costing our State a tremendous amount of jobs.

There seems to be a negative political agenda being played out in the media in the form of television commercials that tend to pit Photovoltaic system owners verses non Photovoltaic system owners in a ploy to create a negative environment and spin the facts that PV owners are somehow getting a free ride with the current net metering policy. They are positioning this on the platform under the grounds of "Fairness". What this fails to capture is that PV owners have either paid cash or leased their systems with their own hard earned money or credit to have the solar benefits and all rate payers have always paid for the use of the grid and solar does not change that.

Solar customers are being specifically targeted to pay extra fees for grid use that mitigates the savings associated with going solar. This directly affects solar attraction to future clients and growth of the industry. The residential PV systems stimulate economic growth in the form of trickle down economic job creation in the state and have created many construction jobs that have been cut since the economic down turn in 2008.

Any change in the current net meeting policy would be a setback to our industry as a whole. The numbers do not lie, and Arizona has been a leading State to this point and should be a leading this vertical nationally. As Arizonans, we should embrace renewable energy growth and a diverse economy because the Lord has blessed us with the perfect climate for solar production and value by utilizing these technologies.

Our company was formed in 2008 and has been on an upward growth pattern of job creation since benefiting from renewable energy policy from the stimulus package and aggressive renewable energy portfolio standards at many levels. Our company has 22 full time employees who all have families that depend on us for their livelihood. This does not include the multitudes of sub-contractors, suppliers, and vendors that we use for our projects being a full service General Contractor. Some of our employees were out of work home builders, framers, plumbers, electricians, and all of



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A Renewable Energy Company

them have had the opportunity to reinvent themselves to a new trade in renewables and get back to work diversifying Arizona's economy.

Please consider this letter as our opinion to the Commission to deny modification to the current net metering policy and allow our company to grow and compete in a fair energy market. The latest changes to the APS Commercial Production Based Incentives have been damaging enough to our business. More setbacks in policy towards the renewable energy vertical in Arizona at this phase of evolution would be damaging and counterproductive to growth of a relatively new industry not to mention our company and the people we employ. Renewables are the future of Arizona and we just want to be able to have our clients use the grid equal to all rate payers' regardless if they have a solar energy system on their roof our not.

Thank you for time,

Barry Coe / Principal

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