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ORIGINAL

Leonard and Laurene Ness Brac

[REDACTED] Sun City West, AZ

Phones: [REDACTED]

Utilities Division of  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

2013 NOV -8 P 4: 22 E-01345A-13-0248

AZ CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

Re: APS initial solar request/amended solar request and cash contributions to "non-profits"

ATTN: Bob Stump, Chairman

November 6, 2013

Arizona Corporation Commission  
DOCKETED

NOV 08 2013

DOCKETED BY [Signature]

My husband and I are senior citizen residents of Sun City West. We are of like minds on the subject of APS and their machinations concerning their 'support' of the Green Solar Industry. However, this letter will be written in first person, as I am the composer of same.

APS is under a 2006 mandate to get 15 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2025. That is an honorable mandate; Arizona is 'the land of the sun'.

In 2011, when we considered whether installation of solar panels was financially do-able for us, APS offered a 'Utility Solar Rebate' that was persuasive. The application of the APS rebate, and the Federal Tax Credit for the green solar expenditure were strong inducements. Our decision was positive. We financed the remaining costs of panels and installation.

Now, however, 2006 mandate or not, APS is petitioning the Utilities Division of the AZ Corporation Commission for a change. Initially their petition was going to penalize ALL existing solar-energy-producing customers. A monthly surcharge to help APS recoup some of the \$\$\$ that they are 'losing' due to the energy put back on the grid by these same customers.

Well, there has been so much media coverage and exposure of APS's under-handed dealings and cash contributions to non-profit entities - entities which would aid APS to influence the elections for existing Commission seats - seats that they hoped would be filled by persons who would support their requested changes - that the 'stink' became public.

NOW, APS is amending their solar request adjusting it "to make it more beneficial to senior homeowners. "... the utility now supports a provision, that in effect, will not penalize estates of senior homeowners who do not live to experience the full benefit of current pricing rules"

Yeah - RIGHT! I think not. I believe that the media exposure of APS cash contributions (why cash? Well, so it was not traceable?) to non-profits to generate "fake controversies" is a pure

unmitigated travesty. The “changes APS proposes would erase the financial incentive for using solar ..... ‘tax the sun’”.

APS was caught with their hand in the virtual ‘cookie jar.’ Their tactics:

- Here, install solar panels on your home; it will save you money monthly
- OH NO - you are saving too much money; not acceptable
- We will contrive a means to recoup a portion of that money from you
- We will add a monthly charge to your bill, *because your solar is working*
- Hah Hah – Fooled you ;!!!!
- Hah Hah – As soon as the dust has settled on this issue, we will attempt more Tom-foolery at the expense of solar households; *because their solar is working*

In my opinion, APS’s actions, behaviors, plans and requests are:

- A deplorable example of ‘Bait and Switch’
- Non-ethical
- Covert and
- Full of half-truths, lies and attempts to CYA – after the fact

APS would have been much better off **keeping their cash donations** and using them ethically to encourage more people to switch to solar; encouraging more people to assist them in meeting their mandate for 15% solar energy production.

What a shameful travesty by a large utility corporation!

It is the sincere hope of the **Ness Braden** household that the Utilities Division of AZ Corp. Comm. is capable of seeing through all the double-speak of any/all APS Spokespersons who offer lame excuses for the behavior of their utility company.

Yes, individual households may be small compared to an ‘Almost-Monopoly’ utility. However, small households having ‘grass roots’ meetings are capable of ROARING.

Thank you for your time.



Laurene *Ness Braden*

cc: Don Brandt, CEO @ APS  
Carole Bartholomeaux, ACC PIO  
Greg Bernosky – Renewable Energy Projects Manager, APS  
Home File

Ryan and Deanna Harrison

[REDACTED]  
Rimrock, AZ 86335  
[REDACTED]

November 7, 2013

Re: Unfair solar commercials, metering fees, and the contract with APS, Arizona

Mr. Bob Stump, Chairman  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 W. Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Stump:

We have been watching commercials from Edison Electrical Institute in regards to people who do not have solar having to pay for people who do have solar to be on the grid. Our first question is who is behind these commercials (are they lobbying for APS?), because they make us solar customers look like we are intentionally causing non-solar customers to have higher energy bills. What if someone becomes angry that we have solar and vandalizes ours or other people's systems because they think we are making them have higher electric bills?

We took a loan out on our 401K to have our solar system put on our home. We were under the impression that APS, and agencies backing green energy, wanted to allow APS customers and to help APS customers purchase solar systems to produce clean, renewable energy for ourselves and for APS. We came up with the full amount to purchase the system and we are paying almost \$600 a month for three years.

The point of the matter is we are paying for most of the system and a lot of others with solar are doing the same. And now, they are talking about solar customers paying \$50 - \$100 a month for metering fees. Whether or not if this is true, if it is over \$15 - \$25 a month for metering fees, it is not worth the hassle or the money to get solar depending on the size of the system because it won't be worth the pay back for the system.

We understand that there is a contract that will run out in 2016 in regards to this issue. At least stick with what has been agreed to. Somebody needs to come out with commercials rebutting the Edison commercials that are deceitful and wrong. It is not fair for people to pay for solar systems and to produce energy and then be punished with fees that nobody said we would or might have

to pay in the future. And especially to make us look like we are making others pay for those fees that we did not know about.

APS has to pay for energy producing systems out of their own pocket and then sell it to the customer. What's the difference? We've come out of our own pocket to pay to produce energy for APS and ourselves and they don't have to pay for the system. All they have to do is check the meter. We are still buying energy from APS. Why did they not let us know up front that there would possibly be fees for metering the system?

We are asking for something to be done about this situation that would be fair and would not hinder people wanting to have solar on their home and still be tied into the grid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ryan and Deanna Harrison". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ryan and Deanna Harrison