



OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

Arizona Community Action Associat



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December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission  
DOCKETED

DEC 16 2014

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DOCKETED BY

Bob Stump, Chairman  
Brenda Burns, Commissioner  
Gary Pierce, Commissioner  
Susan Bitter Smith, Commissioner  
Bob Burns, Commissioner

Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Re: Docket Nos. E-01345A-13-0140 and E-01345A-14-0250

Dear Chairman Stump and Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on APS's proposed Solar Distributed Generation (DG) program.

APS's Solar DG program provides a welcome step in making solar available for all; to ensure the program achieves the greatest possible benefit, low-income customers should be prioritized in the installation of these photovoltaic systems. By allocating a percentage of the installations specifically for limited-income customers who otherwise wouldn't be able to enjoy the benefits of solar, this program goes beyond the traditional solar market, reaching people who can't currently participate. Furthermore, the prospect of a monthly credit on a customer's utility bills will assist their current and ongoing financial security. With nearly half of Arizona's population "liquid asset poor" – having less than three month's savings - and 46 percent of all Arizona households one step away from falling into abject poverty,<sup>1</sup> a monthly credit that low-income customers can depend on can do wonders for their financial security. Furthermore, by providing this opportunity for customers to interact with their utility, it builds a relationship between the company and customer. This opportunity can be leveraged, working with the company and local community agencies, to provide information on bill assistance, weatherization, energy efficiency tips, proper rate plans, or any number of programs for which they may qualify but about which they may not have been aware or been able to apply.

<sup>1</sup><http://scorecard.assetsandopportunity.org/2014/measure/liquid-asset-poverty-rate>,  
<http://morrisoninstitute.asu.edu/news/who-are-arizonas-vulnerable-populations>

This program represents an opportunity to bring rooftop solar to households who currently cannot afford it, provides a valuable credit for limited-income Arizonans working to maintain financial security, and it creates a relationship between APS and its customers that can be leveraged to deliver a host of services and education, significantly increasing the benefits realized from this program.

For these reasons, I am happy to support this program, and appreciate the Commission's consideration of the limited-income Arizonans who could benefit through their participation in this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cynthia Zwick', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cynthia Zwick  
Executive Director

Arizona Community Action Association