

E-01461A-15-0057

ORIGINAL



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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

AZ CORP
DOCKET

2015 MAR 25

UNFILED
RT 9

Investigator: Al Amezcua

Phone:

Fax: 34

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2015 - 121565

Date: 3/23/2015

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

MAR 25 2015

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Calvin

Willis

Account Name: Calvin Willis

Home:

DOCKETED BY

TV

Work: (000) 000-0000

Street:

CBR:

City: Tucson

State: AZ Zip: 85739

is:

Utility Company: Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Division: Electric

Contact Name: Janet Bock

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

From:
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 8:27 AM
To: Utilities Div - Mailbox
Subject: In reference to Docket number: E-01461A-15-0057

In reference to Docket number: E-01461A-15-0057, Filled 2/26/2015
Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc. - a new net-metering tariff

I believe that TRICO has a valid point concerning grid maintenance and other fixed costs (but for owners of solar PV systems AND others). However, their approach of changing the payoff for excess generated energy to monthly from annually is totally unrelated to the fixed cost issue, and is severely misguided.

The correct approach is to accurately separate fixed costs and energy usage, and bill them separately. At a given system capacity, fixed costs are not related to the amount of energy actual used. (and PV generation actually LOWERS fixed costs by reducing needed grid capacity, which benefits all customers) All customers, PV generating or otherwise, should pay the same monthly charge for the same grid access and maintenance and other fixed costs. Likewise, all customers should pay for the energy they actually use, at the same rate schedule.

TRICO already has a 'fixed monthly charge' of \$15. That fee should be fully explained, regulated, and if inadequate to cover fixed costs, increased.

Changing the net metering payoff to monthly would defeat a major benefit and goal of the current net metering tariff (that TRICO supported), which allows PV generators to accumulate excess energy when possible, to use during periods of inadequate generation. The point is not the amount paid for excess energy; it is the accumulation period. TRICO's reasons for this change are either to increase revenue or discourage solar PV installation. Neither reason is valid: revenue needed for fixed costs should be addressed as stated above. The other reason is patently absurd.

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How an addition to an existing PV generation system will be handled is not addressed in TRICO's proposal, and must be considered.

This negative change to net metering will inevitably reduce the amount of future renewable PV installations. It could also have the effect of forcing some providers out of business and thus limiting warranty work. The proposed change will compound the negative effect of the likely elimination of a Federal tax credit in 2017. Please deny TRICO's proposed change to the current Net Metering tariff.

Calvin Willis

Tucson, Az. 85739

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Opinion noted for the record and docketed. CLOSED.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 3/23/2015

Opinion No. 2015 - 121565
