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Debra Scordato

From: Michelle Berry <mberry3232@gmail.com>
Sent: ORIGINAL Wednesday, June 03, 2015 10:04 AM
To: Forese-W Arizona Corporation Commission
Subject: Comment on Docket # E-01933A-15-0100

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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Dear Commissioner Forese:

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I have never written a letter the ACC before, so forgive me if this isn't the correct avenue for comment, but I couldn't figure any other way from your website.

I am writing to urge you to do whatever is necessary to ensure that solar customers (current and future) in the Tucson Electric Power Company's region are not disincentivized in any way from installing residential solar.

I have recently (as in the last week) been shopping around for solar. Both Solar City and Technicians for Sustainability were very concerned about TEP's upcoming hearing (docket number E-01933A-15-0100) regarding changes for solar customers. The proposals, as I understand them, make absolutely no sense as they disincentivize individual conversion to solar. While I am sympathetic to TEP's concern about losing money because of residential solar generation of electricity, I think that is ancillary to the benefits of solar across our community.

As Republican pro-business, pro-free enterprise, pro-competition (ostensibly if you love capitalism, you do so because of its tendency to promote competition), and pro-middle class, I cannot see how you could favor any of the changes TEP is proposing as they simply do not fit with your stated ideology. Private enterprise companies (of which both TFS and Solar City are excellent examples) are competing to bring more sustainable and cleaner electrical sources to the Tucson community. They hire local folks (even Solar City) so they add to our economic stability. And they save middle class families, like myself, a fair bit of money. I suspect the environment is least of your concern...but there is *that* benefit of solar, too.

The solar companies report that many people are walking away when they hear of TEP's assault on solar customers. Those folks likely recognize they have no where to go as TEP is basically a monopoly in Tucson....we can't just get irritated with TEP and leave them (off grid is not an option for the vast majority) and the concern is that TEP is going to disallow us from banking kilowatt hours so that we can use them at peak demand for our household (for me that's June and July). If we can't bank or net-meter, then the economic incentive to sign the lease with these companies almost completely disappears. I know TEP thinks that the "subsidy" for solar has served its purpose. But I can't afford to install solar on my own...the lease and the net metering makes it possible and appealing for me. If I know that there is a possibility for me to owe Solar City AND TEP an unpredictable amount each month because of an inability to use what I generate when I need it at

the 1:1 ratio that it actually is...that gives me pause. And I frankly think that 7,000 customers in Tucson vs. the 414,000 TEP customers suggests solar has a LONG way to go before it is as "affordable" and widespread as TEP seems to think it is.

In short, we in Tucson are stuck with a utility that, it would seem, is bent on severely undermining alternative energy options....that seems to violate the Sherman Anti-Trust Act at the worst, but at best it is short-sighted, self-interested, and wrong-headed.

I've read quite a bit about TEP's proposal, and I have thought deeply about it. I like TEP. Am generally satisfied with their work. BUT this proposal is nonsensical and when you weigh the pros and the cons of it, it's a no brainer for you. You should reject all of the proposed changes. Let solar flourish. We are ALL better off for it...no matter what side of the political fence you are on (unless, I guess, you work for TEP).

Thanks for your time and your hard work. I imagine your work goes relatively unappreciated and often unnoticed.

Sincerely,

Michelle Berry, PhD

Tucson, AZ 85716

• **Debra Scordato**

From: Hope Busto-Keyes <hbustokeyes@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 12:08 PM
To: Forese-Web
Subject: TEP Rooftop Solar Proposal

E-01933A-15-0100

Dear Commissioner Forese,

I am writing to let you know that Tucson Electric Power's rooftop solar proposal should be heard during a regular rate case, not now!

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Sincerely,
Hope Busto-Keyes
5040 N Camino de Oeste
Tucson, AZ 85745

Debra Scordato

From: Greg Smith <bamboola@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2015 9:40 AM
To: Forese-Web
Subject: The future of PV net metering

E-01933A-15-0100

Dear Commissioner,

We are proud owners of a 10kW roof top photovoltaic system that has produced over 100MW-hr of energy over the last 5 years, saving \$10k. My wife and I are looking to downsize our home and would like to install solar when we do. However being conscious of the financial calculus of rooftop solar, the reduction in TEP net metering credit will almost certainly be a deterrent to making such an investment.

I believe the best way of thinking of the benefit of net metering is as my AC unit cycles off, my system produces excess energy that ends up powering my neighbors AC unit for a short while. I am not transmitting power all the way back to the generation system, the power sharing is very local. (I admit that as a senior power engineer, I think about this more deeply than most.)

Net metering cost analysis by the NREL indicates "Various studies have indicated benefits of NEM policies, including encouragement of solar market growth, statistical connection to more installed capacity, and monetization of solar energy's benefits to utilities and society." Please refer to:
https://www.nrel.gov/tech_deployment/state_local_governments/blog/weighing-the-costs-and-benefits-of-net-metering-and-distributed-solar

I view distributed PV in two ways:

- ? While there may be some distribution costs and PV administrative costs that appear to be shifted to non-solar customers, the solar owners (or lease-providers) are making tens of thousand dollar investments in power generation that the non-solar customers are not, which under 15% RE portfolio goals defers the utilities need to build coal or gas fired plants. Give us that credit.
- ? Utilities exist only to serve the needs of their communities, not to grow to ever expanding profit-generating corporations. The ACC goal is to provide reasonable self-determination for customers and to prevent monopolistic activities, such as shifting all RE generation to utility owned systems.

I ask the commissioners to not allow Arizona utilities to move away from the existing net metering of new PV systems.

Greg Smith
Tucson, AZ