

ORIGIN

Teresa Tenbrink



0000163072

E-01345A-13-0248

From: tlyon2222@cox.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2015 11:01 AM
To: RBurns-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web; Stump-Web; BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Re: Utility Rates
Attachments: Worksheet.xlsx

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 DOCKET CONTROL

2015 APR 29 PM 3 27

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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To: Arizona Corporate Commission (ACC)
 Chairman: Susan Bitter Smith
 Commissioners: Tom Forese, Doug Little, Bob Stump, Bob Burns

Date: 21 April 2015

From: Timothy M. Lyon
 Capt. USAF Ret.
 14213 N. McPhee Dr.
 Sun City, AZ. 85351
 623-544-3496

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
 APR 29 2015
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Subject: Solar Energy

Commissioners,

In November of 2011 I leased solar panels for my private residence. I did this for two reasons. One, APS, ACC, The State Legislature and various other entities ran spots touting the advantages of solar energy. Your Commission even required the power companies to have a certain percentage of all power be from non-carbon producing energy by a certain year. Two, after much computation, I figured I could recoup my investment within about 9 years and then realize the savings that you all said I would have.

Then the inevitable happened. APS said we were cutting into their profits. They started a campaign pitting non-solar customers against solar customers with what I consider false data. They said we were using their transmission lines for free and non-solar customers had to subsidize us. No talk about the amount of power they did not have to produce because we were producing our own power. No talk about the money APS saved by taking our excess power and sending it to our neighbors, thereby saving them transmission and delivery charges to that customer that they were still collecting from that customer. No talk about the 6.187 cents per kwh in 2012 and the 2.789 cents per kwh in 2013 (a 45 % drop) that APS reimbursed us for our end of year excess power that they sold to customers for between 9 and 15 cents per kwh.

Regardless of all this, the ACC ruled pretty much in favor of APS. Rules are now in place for APS to incrementally increase rates at each rate case before the ACC. The LFCR has already increased by 47 % from my April 2014 billing to May 2014 billing. Now I do understand that in my case that 47% increase in the LFCR is only 6 cents a month. However, at the next rate case, my grandfathering will be over and even if the ACC does not raise the 70 cents per kw of output, my bill will increase by \$3.50. In the future several 47% increases to that figure will make my investment a loss.

I also hear on the news that SRP is going to add a \$50 a month charge to the bills of those that have solar. We all know that when that happens, APS won't be far behind. My investment recovery under that scenario will go from 9 years to 28 years.

Now that APS has shown other utilities how to use the ACC to get rate increases, I see that Epcor water company is starting its' campaign to raise rates. Again, you all want us to conserve water and state it is a benefit to us in lower utility bills.

I draw your attention to WS-01303A-14-0010, page 2, item 5. It states that one of Epcor's major causes for a rate increase is, "the continued decline of customers water usage per customer".

So we are conserving water and now they want us to pay the same or more as before. Where, may I ask, is the benefit to us, the consumer, and why as a consumer protection agency, are you always finding on the side of the monopoly utility companies?

I recently received a letter from APS informing me of their proposal to charge all new solar customers a flat \$21 fee, but for me not to worry because they are requesting present solar owners be grand fathered in at the present rates. **I guess this is the benefit your staff report refers to in para. 75 of Docket No. E-01345A-13-0248 where it says that at APS's next rate case all DG customers will loose their grandfather status so we can take advantage of the benefits (if any). Thank you so much for looking after us little guys out here ACC.**

Sincerely,
Timothy M. Lyon

Attach. Worksheet showing my totals for 2012. Shows the cost I saved APS using their own figures vs the cost they incurred by me using their power lines during times of my non-production. Approximately a net \$400 profit for APS.



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Use of APS Transmission Lines

2012	Total savings to APS by not using their power				APS kwh used during times my system not producing						
	<u>KWH Used</u>	<u>Gen. Charge</u>	<u>Del Charge</u>	<u>Trans Charge</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Sell Back Loss</u>	<u>kwh used APS</u>	<u>Gen. Charge</u>	<u>Del Charge</u>	<u>Trans Charge</u>	<u>Total</u>
Jan	338	\$19.94	\$9.13	\$1.76	\$30.83		243	\$14.34	\$6.56	\$1.26	\$22.16
Feb	392	\$23.13	\$10.58	\$2.04	\$35.75		271	\$15.99	\$7.32	\$1.41	\$24.72
Mar	418	\$24.66	\$11.29	\$2.17	\$38.12		264	\$15.58	\$7.13	\$1.37	\$24.08
Apr	425	\$26.53	\$11.48	\$2.21	\$40.22		253	\$14.93	\$6.83	\$1.32	\$23.07
May	740	\$59.70	\$19.98	\$3.85	\$83.53		413	\$37.78	\$11.15	\$2.15	\$51.08
Jun	1092	\$102.82	\$29.48	\$5.68	\$137.98		625	\$47.86	\$16.88	\$3.25	\$67.99
Jul	1159	\$111.29	\$31.29	\$6.03	\$148.61		751	\$60.83	\$20.28	\$3.91	\$85.01
Aug	1289	\$127.73	\$34.80	\$6.70	\$169.24		805	\$66.51	\$21.74	\$4.19	\$92.43
Sep	634	\$48.78	\$17.12	\$3.30	\$69.19		525	\$37.56	\$14.18	\$2.73	\$54.47
Oct	498	\$29.38	\$13.45	\$2.59	\$45.42		328	\$19.35	\$8.86	\$1.71	\$29.91
Nov	405	\$23.90	\$10.94	\$2.11	\$36.94		300	\$17.82	\$8.10	\$1.56	\$27.48
Dec	600	\$35.40	\$16.20	\$3.12	\$54.72	\$52.99	477	\$28.14	\$12.88	\$2.48	\$43.50
TOTAL	7990	\$633.26	\$215.73	\$41.55	\$890.54	\$943.52	5255	\$376.68	\$141.89	\$27.33	\$545.89

<u>kwh</u>	<u>Summer rate</u>	<u>Winter Rate</u>	<u>Total Production in 2012</u>
0 - 400	0.0616	0.059	Total Production in 2012
401 - 800	0.103		Total used in 2012
801 -	0.1265		Excess production sold back at \$.06187
			APS profit on my year end excess
			\$74.12
			\$52.99

\$397.63

NET

SAVINGS

TO APS

Teresa Tenbrink

From: ritachilders <ritachilders@zoho.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 8:49 AM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Cc: RBurns-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web; Stump-Web
Subject: E-01345A-13-0248

Dear Commissioners,

Are underhanded and illegal governmental practices now the order of the day?

Arizonans deserve to know if APS is spending more ratepayer money on front groups to attack solar. Demand that APS disclose how much money, collected from ratepayers, they've contributed to these shady tactics by C4 and political groups.

Rita Childers
Cottonwood, Arizona

Teresa Tenbrink

From: jared gillespie <jared_gillespie@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 9:05 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: APS trying to follow SRP monopoly

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

APS wont quit, will they! They keep trying to destroy solar. I am happy about your decision in 2013. I implore you to stop APS in their tracks. Do not approve their proposals that will negatively affect solar customers in any way. Thank you.

Sincerely,

jared gillespie

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Levi Williams <Leviwilliams4676@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 9:04 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Please don't kill solar!

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

By passing this fee, this will put a huge damper on solar! Please do not kill solar and think about it before voting!

Sincerely,

Levi Williams

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Laurie Velasquez <lvelasquez42518@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 8:26 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Taxing Solar Customers

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

There are procedures for raising rates. These include public hearings. I know that this seems like such an inconvenience for both the ACC and the utilities. Still, you could at least pay lip service to the law. Do not let utilities raise rates outside of the proper venue.

Sincerely,

Laurie Velasquez

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Perry Kapadia <perrykapadia@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 7:49 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Please decrease the Solar rates

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

Kindly give more credit to generate solar electricity to households instead of charging them a fees/bill. thx.

Sincerely,

Perry Kapadia

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Susan Arnold <astudio2@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 5:44 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Solar rates

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

The Commission should stick to their word and not let utilities raise rates outside of the proper venue.

Sincerely,

Susan Arnold

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Patricia Orlinski <bikerpat@mindspring.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 4:43 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Rates for solar customers

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

You stated that the fair process for discussing solar rates is in a rate case. So, utilities should not get special treatment to be allowed to raise rates, as four utilities are attempting to do. Keep your commitment to discuss rates in rate cases. If the utilities are having trouble meeting their investors demands, perhaps they could consider buying into solar as part of their full energy plan, and get profits from the solar industry they purchase.

Sincerely,

Patricia Orlinski

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Bill and Susan Nee <billneemail@yahoo.com>
ent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 3:55 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Rooftop Solar Cost

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

Many of the Arizona utilities have tried to raise solar fees, taxes and rates by a plethora of attempts in recent years to improve their cash flow, while harming all solar rooftop customers.

- Utilities shouldn't get special treatment to raise rates for solar customers.
- The fair process for discussing solar rates belongs in a rate case.
- Many Commissioners, and APS, have stated that solar rates should be looked at in a rate case.
- The Commission should stick to their word and not let utilities raise rates outside of the proper venue.

Utilities should work with the solar industry, not try to shut it down within their jurisdiction.

We have lost a great deal of respect for APS over the last few years by their lobbying, deceitful ads and their hollow support for solar energy within their service area.

Sincerely,

Bill and Susan Nee

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Sue E. Dean <deanks@juno.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 3:55 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Solar rate change proposal

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

I understand that Arizona power providers want to follow SRP's model and be allowed to profit from its roof top solar customers, mostly by either charging them new fees or some other scheme to usurp the benefit from customers to whom the benefit is due. This is just wrong headed and must not go forward.

Power providers are obviously aware that encouraging roof top solar is good for Arizona and good for Arizona's air quality, with no out of pocket costs to providers. I believe this is a bad policy idea and must not go forward, but if it must be explored, it should be done within the structured guidelines of rate hearings with their required public comment periods so that all voices and views can be addressed.

Promoting roof top solar creates good paying jobs, reduces pollution, and saves consumers money.

Please do not do anything that will reduce the benefits to customers wanting to install these panels. We need more, not less of them.

Sincerely,

Sue E. Dean

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Jim Wilber <jwilber@onewayelectric.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 3:35 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: APS Greed

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

I am writing to ask you to please stop the nonsense of APS continuously trying to shut down solar. They stated they would not ask for more money prior to the upcoming rate case, yet here they are as soon as SRP passed their fees asking for more money. (By the way, the SRP fee has all but shut down solar in their area). Please make APS live up to their word and let's make it fair for everyone involved by taking a close look at the rate structure and fees within the rate case where everything can be properly reviewed. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jim Wilber

Teresa Tenbrink

From: jim and Elaine stack <jstack6@juno.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 1:09 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Solar taxes

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

Don't let regulated utilities add a tax on solar just because they don't have any storage yet. Add storage . This will help you stop dumping excess at night too.

Sincerely,

jim and Elaine stack

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Richard Davis <sobaco@sanfili.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2015 1:15 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: solar proposals

I believe the proposed changes to my solar agreement borders on breach of contract, if not legally, certainly morally..

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Todd Schoenberger <tna1000@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2015 3:05 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web; RBurns-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web; Stump-Web
Subject: Docket number E-01345A-13-024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Chairman Susan Bitter Smith and Commissioners Bob Burns, Tom Forese, Doug Little, and Bob Stump,

I am writing to you to have APS disclose how much money they've contributed C4 and political groups in an attempt to undermine rooftop solar.

APS is a public utility and a monopoly, as a ratepayer I deserve to know how the money I pay them is being spent, especially if it is being done to further undermine my choices and solidify their future profits.

Please continue to keep the overall benefits of our public utilities in the hands of the public, not thrown to the side to maximize a corporation's profits.

Respectfully,
Richard Schoenberger
4601 E Fanfol Dr.
PHX, AZ 85028

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Barry Goldwater Jr. <bmg@sippapu.com>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2015 11:32 PM
Subject: historic solar agreement

An Interesting article on what they did in South Carolina regarding all sides sitting down and coming together on solar/net metering. It can be done with leadership,,,,,,,,,,,,,,Barry

<http://blog.cleanenergy.org/2015/04/06/the-sun-is-shining-a-little-brighter-in-south-carolina-thanks-to-historic-solar-agreement/>

The best always,
Barry

Barry M. Goldwater, Jr.
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The Sun is Shining a Little Brighter in South Carolina Thanks to Historic Solar Agreement

April 6th, 2015 » [Clean Energy](#), [Renewable Energy](#), [Solar](#) » [Toni Nelson](#) »



In less than a year, South Carolina has gone from being a state that was widely seen as resistant, if not downright hostile, to solar energy, to establishing itself as trailblazer in brokering an agreement between utilities, industry, and clean energy advocates that will ramp up solar development in the state over the next five years. With last year's passage of [Act 236](#), which established a state-wide distributed energy resource (DER) program, and the subsequent stakeholder engagement process to negotiate the program's net metering rate – which led to a landmark [settlement agreement](#) in December – South Carolina's process is now being looked to as a model of collaboration for the development of state-wide solar programs.

On March 20th, the South Carolina Public Service Commission (PSC) [approved](#) the net metering settlement agreement and paved the way for solar energy to take off in the state. What is unique about South Carolina's experience is how stakeholders that typically find themselves on opposite sides of the table came together and showed real leadership in brokering a deal that all parties could get behind. In the end, the electric power companies, regulators, and conservation organizations were able to craft first a law and then an agreement for how to compensate customers for the solar energy produced by their rooftop solar systems and recover any associated costs that had universal buy-in.

Much of the credit goes to solar advocates who have been working to advance energy policy in the state for decades. Organizations like the [South Carolina Coastal Conservation League \(CCL\)](#) and [Conservation Voters of South Carolina](#), along with regional partners SACE and the [Southern Environmental Law Center \(SEL-C\)](#) and others, took a lead role in shepherding the negotiations, which first began in 2013. As Hamilton Davis, CCL's Climate and Energy Director, observed, "You have to have groups with the stamina and capacity to stay engaged." In February, solar advocates launched a website to keep the public up-to-date on solar program development and new incentives the utilities will offer to help homeowners and businesses install rooftop solar systems: [www.scsolarnow.com](#). The home page proudly proclaims, "Solar Energy Has Arrived in South Carolina!"

The historic lack of solar development in South Carolina led Columbia newspaper *The State* to observe in late 2012 that "South Carolina's interest in solar energy is so faint that national studies rank the state at, or near, the bottom in the use and promotion of sun power." This was despite South Carolina's location in the sunny Southeast, its state ranking of 20th in [maximum solar resource](#), and the existence of a generous [tax credit](#) for solar systems along with programs allowing for those systems to be net metered. While solar was taking off across the rest of the country due to falling prices and federal incentives, the continued lack of solar development in South Carolina caused it to fall increasingly behind other states. [In 2012, South Carolina was ranked 30th in installed solar capacity; by 2014, it had dropped to 32nd.](#)



But throughout that time period, negotiations were going on behind the scenes that would change all of this. Back in 2010, an [Energy Advisory Council](#) was established to advise the state legislature on energy issues, specifically the State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee. The Council includes energy regulators, electric power companies – both the investor-owned utilities (IOUs) and the energy cooperatives – and representatives from the conservation community. As Mr. Davis notes, this has had the effect of allowing people from the different sectors to sit around the table and get to know each other through years of working together, and is it a key reason for the eventual success in passing the Distributed Energy Resource Program Act of 2014.

[Legislation to allow third-party sales of solar systems](#) was actually introduced in the South Carolina legislature in 2013. While there was a great deal of support at that time for allowing these free market mechanisms to come into the state, the utilities requested the bill be delayed to give them a chance to work with solar advocates to modify the proposed language. The Energy Advisory Council was the logical place to hash it out. Throughout the summer of 2013, the [Council conducted a study to address "the paradigm shift"](#) that utilities are facing with the increasing penetration of distributed energy resources such as rooftop solar systems in their territories, then in late 2013 the Council sat down again to re-negotiate the legislation, presenting amended language for the bill early last year.

Act 236 sailed through the South Carolina legislature, without a single vote against it in either the House or the Senate, and was signed into law by Governor Nikki Haley in June. The Act requires the investor-owned utilities (IOUs) to achieve penetration levels of renewable resources representing two percent of their peak power demand by 2021. Under the DER program proposals filed in February by the three IOUs subject to the law – [Duke Energy Carolinas](#), [Duke Energy Progress](#), and [South Carolina Electric & Gas](#) – solar capacity in their service territories will jump from 5.4 MW today (of a total of [8 MW in the state](#) as a whole installed at the end of 2013) to 195 MW by 2021. While that number is still small relative to the amount of solar development in neighboring states North Carolina and Georgia, which are expected to each have more than a gigawatt of installed solar by 2016, it's a significant step forward for South Carolina.



8+1

Tags: [Distributed Energy Resource Program Act of 2014](#), [Governor Nikki Haley](#), [solar](#), [South Carolina](#), [South Carolina Coastal Conservation League](#)

1 Comment

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This is obviously great news for homeowners in South Carolina. Solar power is proving to look good from every vantage point now. It is just a matter of time before every state embraces it as THE source of energy for the future.

Comment by [Nick Tedesco](#) on April 7, 2015 7:15 pm

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- [American Wind Energy Association](#)
- [Beyond Coal](#)
- [Clean Air Task Force](#)
- [Energy Action Coalition](#)
- [Environmental Defense Fund](#)
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Teresa Tenbrink

From: Barry Goldwater Jr. <bmg@sippapu.com>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2015 11:48 AM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: rooftop
Attachments: DRAFT MS PR TUSK_mh.docx; ATT00001..htm

Susan,

It was nice to see you last night at the Republican headquarters. As i mentioned, I am working in many states to promote rooftop solar. Mississippi and South Carolina are successfully working through the issues that confront utilities and the renewable industry. This is just an FYI,,,,,,,,,,,,,Barry

TUSK Lauds Mississippi Public Service Commission's Draft Net Metering Rules

Jackson, MS – April 14, 2015 -

Mississippi is on its way to becoming the 45th state to institute net metering - the free market concept that requires utility monopolies to give rooftop solar customers full, fair credit for the excess energy they send back to the grid. Rooftop solar and net metering have introduced the free market concept to the electric utility market. Tell Utilities Solar won't be Killed (TUSK), founded by Barry Goldwater Jr., applauds the Mississippi Public Service Commission on their recently released draft net metering rules, which would allow Mississippians to choose how to power their own homes.

"Last week, the Mississippi Public Service Commission got it right," said TUSK Chairman and retired US Congressman Barry Goldwater, Jr. " Mississippi is just one of five states without a net metering policy, and it is great to see the PSC recognize that rooftop solar is right for Mississippi."

Across the country, utility monopolies are fighting rooftop solar and net metering. They have been lobbying for tax hikes, special fees, and surcharges all designed to undercut rooftop solar. However, people in Mississippi are closer than ever to having energy choice, a thriving rooftop solar market, and the right to fully realize the benefits of the power they generate on their roofs if the draft rules are enacted into law.

About Tell Utilities Solar won't be Killed

TUSK was formed to create a united front through which the public can tell utilities that solar is right for conservatives and right for America. <http://dontkillsolar.com/>

CONTACT: Mike Scerbo, (602) 615-6523

SOURCE Tell Utilities Solar won't be Killed (TUSK)

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Susan Bitter Smith
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2015 9:02 AM
To: Teresa Tenbrink
Subject: Fw: SunPower

Can we docket?

Susan Bitter Smith
Chairman of the Arizona Corporation Commission
President of the Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-542-3625

From: Greg Field <gregjfield@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 9:03 PM
To: Susan Bitter Smith
Subject: Fwd: SunPower

Susan

These are the kind of client emails and concerns I am seeing right now which is preventing most clients from saying yes to doing solar. Please include in the docket.

Respectfully,

Greg Field
602.363.7327 Cell
480.365.0957 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Luis A
Date: Wed, Apr 15, 2015 at 7:35 PM
Subject: Re: SunPower
To: Greg Field <>

Hi Greg,

I got your voicemail today. Thanks for following up. I have gotten caught up with some other work and haven't had time to research some of my questions. I have narrowed it down to not wanting to give up cash for the purchase. So now I'm looking at risks with leasing. My main concern lies in the uncertainty of APS' (and all of the electric utility industry) pricing model. Yes, I know their going to raise their connection fee, but are they going to grandfather in the current fee? I'm assuming yes, but for how long? 10 years? 20 years? Forever? Even more of a concern is whether or not Net Metering will still be around in the near future. If Net Metering goes away, then there will be absolutely no way that solar makes sense. I'm worried that the lease will make sense for me now and maybe the next couple of years, but beyond that, there's a lot of uncertainty with what the APS pricing model will look like. So one of my questions is will I know the terms of the APS proposal prior to signing a Lease. In other words will I see anything from the AZCC or APS that says I will be grandfathered in for both the current connection fee and still have Net Metering?

I know I'll be kickin' myself when APS changes pricing models, making me pay them more and then on top of that still have a lease I can't get out of for 20 years.

I do plan on looking more into this, so I'm not out of solar just yet, but I do have great reservations.

Thanks,
Luis

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Carl Elitz <elitzc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 09, 2015 9:39 AM
To: BitterSmith-Web; RBurns-Web; Stump-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web
Subject: Solar Taxes

Dear Corp Commission,

I am not a "tree hugger" but I do believe in Solar energy when it can be proven to be a practical alternative to fossil fuels. This was the case four years ago when I installed 28 solar panels on my roof.

At the time both APS and the government, both State & Federal, encouraged this. Now after I have done it, APS wants to take away the benefits that I paid for up front.

Suffice it to say I am very angry about this and hope you will completely reject **ANY** rate hikes on solar.

If APS wants to discourage Solar they should simply eliminate all the current subsidies.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carl J. Elitz
Precinct Captain
Greystone - SCW
BitterSmith-web@azcc.gov

RBurns-web@azcc.gov

Stump-web@azcc.gov

Forese-web@azcc.gov

Little-web@azcc.gov

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Ron Harvey <alissa@cableone.net>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2015 7:14 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Solar v. Grid

Dear Chairperson Bitter Smith,

I have great concern that the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) is losing its objectivity when considering solar fees for Arizona Public Service (APS) and Salt River Project (SRP). "Dark money" from these utilities has reportedly tilted the election of commissioners as quid pro quo vis-à-vis solar fees.

The great danger for Arizona citizens is the resurgence of the use of foreign fossil fuels, weakening of Arizona's mighty resource (i.e., photovoltaic energy), and the resurgence of foreign oil domination of the USA (i.e., Arizona).

The ACC should not take us in reverse. The recent Letter to the Editor on www.azcentral.com explains the illogical argument proposed by APS and SRP of saving the grid (**SEE ATTACHED**).

Please strengthen Arizona's solar industry and shun corporate control of the ACC.

Sincerely,

Ron

Ronald L. Harvey, M.D., MBA

aliron@cableone.net

3320 Charla Drive

Prescott, AZ 86305-4140

Let's place a fee on dairy cows to support the grid

We must support the grid at all costs. The grid, of course, is the electrical grid maintained and operated by Salt River Project and the Arizona Power Service.

Both SRP and APS have levied fees against solar panel users, under the premise that solar energy creates less need for electricity from the grid.

Less need not only puts grid maintenance in jeopardy, but it also threatens the robust salaries of SRP and APS employees.

For those who wish to generate more money in support of the grid:

First, place a fee on dairy cows. A recent article in the Economy section described how two dairy farms in Buckeye captured methane from cow manure to generate electricity. Clearly this is not supporting the grid.

The fee could be based on the amount of manure the cows produce, or the cows could just make less poop in order to help the grid. A bumper sticker could say, "Poop hurts the grid."

Second, Arizona has a plethora of seasonal residents who stay only for a few months. When those residents are not in their Arizona home, presumably those homes use less electricity from the grid.

APS and SRP could assess a fee for the months when the homes are not occupied. Clearly an unoccupied home must be anti-grid. The bumper sticker would simply state, "Let's keep the lights on."

Third, when people sell their home and move into a smaller home, they likely use less electricity.

So why not make them pay the difference in the utility bill between what they had used in their larger home and use in their smaller home? The grid would be preserved. Bumper stickers could proclaim, "No more is no less."

Some of your editorials have been pro-grid, suggesting that nobody really minds the added fees if they support the grid.

Certainly none of us are bothered by the add-on fees of airline tickets, cellphone bills, internet services, and car rentals. Or are we?

— Tom Doubt, Mesa

Non-Solar vs Solar - A Fair Solution

Dear Commissioner,

I am a resident of the City of Goodyear. For the record, I have rooftop solar on my house that I purchased outright. I alone enjoy the benefits of that purchase. This equipment has already been expensed to my non-solar neighbors as a function of the Federal and Arizona Tax Deductions that were generated by the purchase of this equipment. I will not debate the "fairness" of that here.

I have been reading the various demands of APS regarding their ability to make a profit and their insistence that rooftop solar is shifting more burden to their non-solar customers and was even sent the attached email which is in no way a "fair" or even reasonable way to solve this. It is clearly a marketing ploy to keep the general public quiet. Non-solar customers think that burden is being shifted to solar customers, old solar customers think they are not going to be affected, and "everyone wins." In reality, this is simply kicking that can down the road and not addressing the real issue.

To me, the solution seems simple. Blending rates and grid costs muddies the water of "fairness" to all. It is a disservice to everyone to grandfather older solar customers and charge them differently than someone that will install their system tomorrow. I fit into this "grandfathered" group, and it is "not fair" for me not to be billed my share. When I bought my system, there was no guarantee from anyone in regard to how rates would be calculated 5 years from now.

1. Everyone who ties to the electrical grid in the APS district should be charged **THE SAME** amount for access to that grid **NO MATTER WHAT**. While there should be varying rates for higher voltage delivery for commercial customers, pretty much every home in the Valley has the same setup; power is fed from the grid into a 220v panel to the home. The grid is not more expensive, nor cheaper whether solar is installed, or not installed. As such, this should simply be a fee everyone pays that covers their share of the maintenance of this infrastructure. Delivery Fees should also be part of this fee. There is no additional cost I am aware of to deliver more power if needed to the same 220v panel. The grid is already tied to the home.
2. Electric Rates: These should be standardized as well. Plans are fine, but the rates should be tied only to the amount of electricity production cost. People with solar are not buying as much electricity as they have paid for a small production facility to make their own. They should not be forced to pay any more for their purchased kW of power than their non-solar neighbor. Electricity should be treated something like gasoline. It is a fluctuating cost based on the cost of production and a few other predictable factors. If you buy a hybrid electric car, you are not forced to go buy gas at a higher rate, you simply buy less gas at the same price everyone else is buying gas.

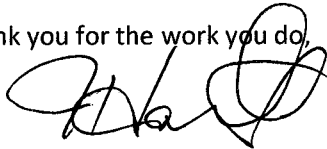
3. Demand Charges (the "gotcha" tax): The current billing structure is not a fair way to rate anyone.
- a. If the Commission were to allow APS to make the demand rate 10 times more than it is now, but be forced to bill it on the LOWEST hour worth of usage in any one month, APS would scream that it is not fair, as people would likely turn everything off for an hour during *PEAK* each month and pay nothing in the demand charge. As a consumer, letting APS pick out the highest usage hour for any one month and bill on that single hour is maddening.
 - b. The calculation for this charge should be averaged at a minimum by the week for the highest total peak demand amount in any one week of the month. This would allow consumers to have a day off and be able to run their A/C, do laundry, etc. for that day and then go back into conservation mode when they are not home.
 - c. This change would also allow solar customers to be on a "demand" plan, and not be penalized when it is cloudy one day.

While the "demand" plans are a good idea and they truly serve a purpose to encourage the reduction of power during peak times, they are not currently "fair" to consumers and there is no way anyone could argue differently.

While this is likely a simplistic view of the utility structure, and I do not proclaim myself to be an expert, I think these three principles should be a starting point in any restructure of the rates.

Regards, and thank you for the work you do,

John Hartwick
4700 N 153rd Ln
Goodyear AZ 85395
(623) 239-0499



John Hartwick

From: APS
Sent: Friday, April 03, 2015 1:57 PM
To: John Hartwick
Subject: Current Solar Customers Not Impacted by APS Filing



Dear John Hartwick,
We want to keep you up to date with the latest information regarding your electric service.

We recently filed a proposal with the Arizona Corporation Commission to adjust the current monthly grid access charge for customers with rooftop solar, which shows up on your bill as "LFCR-DG." This change, as stated in our proposal, would increase the charge from approximately \$5 per month to roughly \$21 per month for **new** rooftop solar customers.

Our proposal states that existing rooftop solar customers, like you, would not be impacted by this change.

[Read more](#)

If you'd like to review the proposal in full, please visit azenergyfuture.com. Or, if you have questions, please call our Green Team at 602-216-0318 or toll-free at 800-659-8148.

We sincerely thank you for your continued commitment to a sustainable solar future.
Sincerely,

Stacy Derstine
Chief Customer Officer

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