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COMMISSIONERS

**SUSAN BITTER SMITH - Chairman
BOB STUMP
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DOUG LITTLE
TOM FORESE**

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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2015 JUL 13 PM 2:18

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

JUL 13 2015

In reference to Docket numbers:

E-01461A-15-0057

E-01933A-15-0100

E-01575A-15-0127

DOCKETED BY

My name is Chad Waits. Since 2008 I have owned Net Zero Solar in Tucson, AZ. We are a design and build firm specializing in rooftop and ground mounted solar electric systems. Net Zero Solar has roughly 600 customers in Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Cochise, and Graham counties. Our grid-connected systems are interconnected with the following utilities: Tucson Electric Power (TEP), Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC), Unisource, and TRICO. I'm writing this email on behalf of our current customers and employees.

The recent proposals in the above referenced docket numbers have created several problems that have made it almost impossible for Net Zero Solar operate our business.

1. All 3 proposals insist that there is a cost shift from solar ratepayers to non-solar ratepayers. This may be true, however, we know very well that cost shifts occur in all the rate structures of Arizona utilities, both investor owned utilities, and cooperatives. Customers that use large amounts of energy subsidize customers that use small amounts of energy. Urban customers subsidize rural customers. Snowbirds pay less in fixed costs. And so on...
2. All three proposals have "grandfather dates", with SSVEC and TRICO only giving about 48 hours notice to get potential solar customers in under the deadline. This has effectively stopped all sales of solar electric systems for my business in the SSVEC and TRICO service areas. With TEP's June 1st, 2015 "grandfather date" rapidly approaching, it will be only a few weeks before we will have no place to sell our products and services.
3. If none of these proposals are heard and decisions made until late in the year, it will put Net Zero Solar out of business and you can add ten people to Arizona's unemployment ranks.

Cost shifts are appropriately addressed in rate cases, as ACC staff has recommended for both TEP and TRICO. This alleged cost shift should be treated no differently. I respectfully ask that the Commissioners immediately order all parties to withdraw, at the very minimum, the "grandfather date" in the proposals and let the free market continue until each case is heard, and more importantly, a carefully considered

decision is made. It seems extremely unfair to the ratepayers and to the solar businesses to now have to wait in limbo while these proceedings play out in lengthy and costly commission hearings.

Thank you.



Chad Waits
Owner - Net Zero Solar
101 W. 5th St., Tucson, AZ 85705
520-207-4053
chadwaits@netzerosolar.net

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Chad Waits <chadwaits@netzerosolar.net>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2015 3:13 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web; RBurns-Web; Stump-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web
Subject: Letter In reference to Docket numbers: E-01461A-15-0057, E-01933A-15-0100, and E-01575A-15-0127
Attachments: BRN30055C38BE29_001683.pdf
Importance: High
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Thank you.

Chad Waits
President/Owner – Net Zero Solar
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NABCEP Certified PV Installation Professional
NABCEP Certified Solar Heating Installer



Teresa Tenbrink

From: Frank Pitts <ffjrpitts@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 1:11 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Subject: Don't Stifle Solar

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: DOCKETED

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith,

Utilities shouldn't get special treatment to raise rates for solar. The fair process for discussing solar rates is in a rate case. Solar is the right energy source for Arizona. We need to nurture solar and allow it to grow. A GREEN economy will be profitable for our state as well as healthy for our environment. Solar is good for many. Solar is good of our planet. Solar is good of our children. Solar is good of our nation. With solars many obvious and mammoth benefits why even consider limiting its growth? Please deny APS, Trico, TEP, and SSVEC special treatment at making another money grab. If these giants want to remain in business they need to evolve with healthy technology and compete on a level playing field.

Sincerely,

Frank Pitts