

E-01933A-15-0322



0000168398

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commis
Utilities Complaint Form

Investigator: Deborah Reagan Phone: <<< REDACTED >>>

Opinion Date: 2/16/2016

Opinion Number: 2016 - 128859

Priority: Respond within 5 business days

Opinion Codes: Rate Case Items - Opposed

Closed Date: 2/16/2016 11:24 AM

First Name: James

Last Name: Ayers

Account Name: James Ayers

Address: <<< REDACTED >>>

City: Oro Valley

State: AZ

Zip Code: 85737

Home: <<< REDACTED >>>

Email: <<< REDACTED >>>

Company: Tucson Electric Power Company

Division: Electric

Nature Of Opinion

Docket Number: E-01933A-15-0322

Docket Position: Against

An increase in fees or a change in net metering will come close to stopping the spread of solar power to the individual homeowner. When I installed my solar system in 2015, it was a financially breakeven situation and remains so today. The issues you are considering in this docket will result in a my effectively paying more for electrical energy than I would have paid before the solar installation. These type of increases will make solar energy uneconomical for the homeowner by creating a couple new avenues by which the electrical company can further increase income into the future. Two avenues that they currently do not have. The basic problem here for the electrical company is they have not realistically foreseen the future of energy supply and have not altered their business plan to take advantage of the changes that would occur. They encourage energy conservation, which is good, but have also supported installation of homeowner solar power to the point of offering a limited number of customers (600 if I remember correctly) a free solar panel installation. They must realize that their purpose is no longer simply generation and distribution, but one also of supporting the growth of alternative energy sources. Increased fees and the alteration of net metering rates is not the way to go. As a retired individual my fixed income has not substantially changed in the last 20 years. The increased cost of electric service will effectively be a further decrease in my disposable income. Please consider this and the above business issues in your deliberations.

As an elderly Arizonan I installed solar panels in an attempt to keep my utility costs in line with my fixed income while at the same time trying to contribute to the alternative energy effort. My installation has been basically a break even operation as was expected at the time, but projected to save some small amounts as time went on. To add new types of fees and less attractive net metering rates will make solar energy an unattractive source of electricity. Any approval to alter either the net metering arrangement or to implement a grid usage charge will hit the senior population unfairly and make installation of new systems uneconomical. It is time for the utility company to rethink their business plan and recast themselves in a more forward looking role, examining what future value they can bring to society and what part they can play in the future of the energy business. The role of generation and distribution will no longer be sufficient for that future. I implore you to seriously consider the effect of TEP's request on the senior population who went out on a limb attempting to manage their on-going expenses with alternative energy sources such as solar panels.

Arizona Corporation Commissioner

DOCKETED

Date:

Analyst:

Investigation

Submitted By:

Type:

FEB 16 2016

DOCKETED BY

E-01933A-15-0322

**Arizona Corporation Commission
Utilities Complaint Form**

2/16/2016

Deborah Reagan

Telephone

Investigation

Comments noted for the record and filed with Docket Control.
