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April 21, 2016

Chairman Doug Little
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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Chairman Little:

I am a new solar user in Sierra Vista and I installed our system about six months ago. I was appalled to learn about the Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative proposal to charge solar customers twice the base rate of their traditional customers (\$50 for DG customers vs \$25 for traditional customers). I can only view this action by SSVEC as discriminatory to their DG customers and harmful to the rooftop solar industry as a whole. This proposal has every indication that SSVEC is trying to put roof-top solar companies out of business. While I have no money invested in the solar industry other than the equipment on my roof, I do believe that solar companies provide an important product for the public. It makes sense to me (and many others) be a responsible citizen and to make an investment in solar that is better for our environment. I am hopeful that the ACC will not approve this SSVEC proposal as it currently stands.

I have invested a lot of money in my solar system and saved SSVEC a substantial amount of capital expense to help reach their goal for using renewable energy. I initially figured I would have about an 8-10 year ROI. Now with the proposed base rate doubled for solar users, my ROI may be many more years. I knew my ROI on a solar system was not great, but I believe it was the right thing to do. I realize that SSVEC may be able to create electricity perhaps more efficiently from their plan to use a massive solar farm, but I have not harmed the environment at all with my roof-top system. Even though there are environmental issues associated with solar farms, I still support the use of solar as a renewable energy. I believe that SSVEC needs to support and encourage roof-top solar systems, not penalize their solar customers and harm the many companies providing this important product/service.

I appreciate all that the Commission does for Arizona and I trust that you will continue to do what is right for our great state. Please reject the SSVEC rate plan case especially as it pertains to DG users. I believe that the proposed SSVEC rate plan discrimination against solar users will ultimately hurt all customers.

Sincerely,

Jeryl D. Harder
2996 Softwind Dr
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619-921-4687

Arizona Corporation Commission

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