

ORIGINAL



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Andrea Gaston

From:
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2016 1:45 PM
To: Little-Web
Subject: TRICO PROPOSAL - E-01461A-15-0363

Dear Commissioner Little,

I am writing today as a consumer and citizen to encourage you to oppose the rate changes proposed by TRICO.

Since we live in a capitalistic society, it is understandable that TRICO is going to always work first and foremost on behalf of their shareholders. Their job as a company is to make as much as possible for their shareholders. And this proposal would certainly make their shareholders very happy, as it would increase revenue substantially. That's why we have regulatory agencies like the AZCC that ensure that the best interests of the community...and its citizens...are also served.

We live in a society that cares about the common good, indeed a society that incentivizes behaviors that benefit society as a whole. I get a nice deduction on my federal and state income tax because I own a home. That's because as a society we believe home ownership encourages individuals to invest in the community and provides stability. Likewise, my contributions to charities are viewed as benefitting the common good. We encourage these contributions by making them financially rewarding for donors.

In the same way, citizens should be encouraged to invest in clean energy. Solar and other clean energy is clearly the future of our communities and our planet and the more quickly we move toward solar, the better for our environment, our communities, and our world. Up until now, citizens have been encouraged to invest in solar by receiving credits on their income tax and by receiving fair treatment from utilities, including TRICO. Currently, citizens who have solar installed on their homes are able to sell any excess energy to TRICO at market rates and, when they need more energy than their solar can provide, purchase it at market rates.

TRICO now wishes to strongly dis-incentivize the purchase and installation of solar by individual homeowners. If this proposal is passed, the purchase of solar by homeowners will drop dramatically, as it has in Nevada since they made decisions that favored utilities over homeowners. Homeowners like my wife and I want to do the right thing but cannot afford to pay tens of thousands of dollars for solar with a payback period that is well beyond our tenure in our home...and probably beyond our lifetime!

TRICO is already making more than a reasonable profit. I would urge the AZCC to stand with Arizona homeowners, as well as nurture the well being of the environment, by rejecting TRICO's proposed rate changes.

Feel free to contact me if you would like more information or conversation.

Sincerely,

David and Anna Dethmers

Green Valley, AZ 85614

Arizona Corporation Commission

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