

Utah Public Service Commission Heber M. Wells Building, 4th Floor 160 East 300 South Salt Lake City UT 84111

May 1, 2007

RE: Tariff PSCU No. 47

Schedule 107 – Solar Incentive Program

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to support the recently submitted tariff filing by Rocky Mountain Power for approval of Schedule 107 - Solar Incentive Program. I am the President of the Utah Solar Energy Association, which was formed in 2006. With over 40 members and over 30 companies selling solar energy systems in Utah, we have the support of 100's of people who have purchased solar systems to power all or part of there energy needs. We expect to double our membership in 2007 with many new education and training programs that we are giving free to the public. Also I have been in the solar industry in Utah since 1984 and have seen the growth in this new industry. With your help this can double the exposure for renewable energy sources, and bring new jobs, especially to rural Utah.

As a member of Utah's emerging solar industry, I am very supportive of Rocky Mountain Power's proposed pilot solar incentive program. I feel this program will provide the utility, ratepayers, and the State with valuable information on the potential for solar technologies in helping to meet Utah's growing peak demand.

With nearly 300 days of sun a year, Utah has an excellent solar resource and could reap the benefits of increased adoption of solar technologies. Solar photovoltaic electricity provides safe, abundant, carbon- and pollution-free energy, especially during Utah's critical peak demand period. Understanding that the utility and customers do not have much experience with solar technologies, I believe this modest pilot program will provide the necessary information and education to better assess the great potential of this resource in Utah. What's more, the proposed rebate is another step towards increased adoption of solar in the state, which is significant for business owners in the solar industry like me.

My support for this program is contingent upon one minor suggested change to the program. In their Implementation Plan, Rocky Mountain Power requests a transfer of all of the Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) associated with the solar PV systems served by the incentive program. RECs are an important revenue stream for renewable energy and solar technologies, so I feel it is prudent to suggest the associated RECs transferred to Rocky Mountain Power are proportionate to the percentage of cost incurred by the utility.

If the rebate provided by the utility is equivalent to 20% of the total system cost, they should receive 20% of the RECs associated with the system. With this minor change, I fully endorse this program and thank you for your consideration of my comments on this important pilot program. We strongly encourage the Commission to approve Schedule 107. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (801)501-9353

Sincerely,

Orrin Farnsworth
President
Utah Solar Energy Association
orrin@aeesolar.com