

November 22, 2008

Utah Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

REF. Docket No. 08-035-78 In the Matter of the Consideration of Changes to
Rocky Mountain Power's Schedule No. 135 – Net Metering Service

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the Utah Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) to encourage changes to Rocky Mountain Power's Schedule No. 135 – Net Metering Service – that would encourage the development of larger commercial-scale renewable energy projects and residential systems.

As part of its national policy, “the AIA supports government policies, programs, and incentives to encourage energy conservation as it relates to the built environment as well as aggressive development of renewable energy sources.”

We recommend that there be no caps on the Utah net metering program. For residential systems, we recommend that excess generation of electricity be valued at the full retail rate. And for commercial projects, we recommend that customers have the flexibility to choose to either value excess generation at their full retail rate under current rate schedule or value excess generation at the avoided cost, as determined in Schedule 37.

Although we were encouraged by the passage Senate Bill SB-84 in the 2008 General Session, we feel more can be done. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
AIA Utah

Kenneth G. Adlam, AIA
Chair, Government Affairs Committee