

From: Merilee Livingston
To: Behr, Trixie
Date: 7/25/2008 7:55 AM
Subject: Fwd: Net Metering Rules

>>> "Gerald Whipple"

> 7/23/2008 6:41 PM >>> 2008 JUL 25 A 8:31

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Dear Public Utilities Commissioners,

I am writing in reference to the changes that Rocky Mountain Power has requested to make to the net metering rules (Docket # 08-035-T04, Schedule 135). I have lived on and have been professionally installing renewable energy systems in Utah for over 10 years. Starting in 2002 when the net metering rules were passed, I have had to battle Utah Power especially at the local level to be allowed to connect legal net metering systems.

During the past 6 years there have been many customers who decided NOT to install a net metering system due to the poor return from Rocky Mountain (Utah) Power. As I have heard many times " You mean I only get 1/2 price from what I net meter then they take my credits at the end of the year and I get nothing" This is not a positive way to increase the number of net metering systems. What is back fed to the utility just goes to the customer next door at full retail price so it seems that the utility is actually double dipping.

What about a farmer who wants to net meter, he will run an irrigation pivot for 5 months (May thru September) at an average cost of \$5000.00 per month for electricity. Under the current rules starting in January 1st he can start to build a credit until he turns on the well pump, he will probably use up his net metering credits by June or July if he has a large system. Then by October 1st the pump is off and he starts to build up his net metering credits again, oh but come December 31st all the net metering credits are gone. Now that is not a good investment.

I do understand that utility companies need to and should make a profit but there needs to be a little more consideration to the consumer. If the plan is to further the use of renewable energy there needs to be a more logical approach to the net metering credits. St George City, Washington City and Hurricane City give a "one for one" net metering credit and will pay for any excess credits at the end of the year.

I think that the public should have an opportunity to give their opinion on this matter, I will send out a notice to all my customers to let them know that they need to be heard on this matter.

Thank You

Gerald Whipple, President
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