



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Docket No. 13-035-184

1 message

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To: psc@utah.gov

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1/25/14

Dear Commissioners:

I wish to submit these comments for Docket No. 13-035-184.

After reading the article in the Salt Lake Tribune dated 1/6/2014 regarding Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP) proposal to charge solar-powered or wind turbine-powered homes an extra fee, I would like to add my voice to those in opposition of this proposal. It is my understanding that RMP wishes to charge this extra fee in order to "offset the fixed cost of supplying service...as well as receiving the extra electricity" (Salt Lake Tribune, 1/6/2014).

It is my hope that the Commission will seriously consider the wishes of the state's citizens, because this proposal seems ludicrous for several reasons:

1) Citizens of the state who power their homes with solar power or wind power should be rewarded for their efforts in energy conservation rather than punished. Considering the fact that both Salt Lake County, and Cache County have consecutively been rated the worst areas in the entire nation for air pollution, I would think that the state officials would find any way possible to reward the citizens who make real efforts in curbing this distressing problem. Instead, I must ask myself why anyone would possibly desire making an effort in this direction should their efforts only be met with increased fees?

2) It is my understanding that these homes powered by solar or wind actually turn their unused kilowatts back to RMP who then turns around and sells the extra power for profit. Why doesn't RMP pay the customers for their unused energy as an incentive towards energy conservation? This is done in several other states. Instead, RMP wishes to charge these customers extra fees. This just does not make any sense.

3) It has been my experience regarding proposals, that the burden of proof lies with the party making the proposal. I have not seen where RMP has done this. Apparently, the claim is that it costs the company extra to supply service to these solar or wind powered homes. Why? If the homes are generating back additional energy, and the equipment is no different than equipment used in supplying other homes, then where is the

extra cost coming from? Has RMP presented an actual breakdown of these costs substantiated with proof?

As a concerned citizen of the State of Utah, it is my sincere wish that the Commission will seriously weigh the efforts made by these power conscious citizens. They are the ones who are assisting in making this state a better place in which to live. Please, do not allow RMP to slap them with fees for their commendable efforts.

Sincerely,

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