

Erika Tedder <etedder@utah.gov>
To: h.j.lentz@gmail.com
Cc: "Commission, Public Service" <psc@utah.gov>

Mon, Jun 2, 2014 at 8:48 AM

Dear Consumer,

The scope of the Informal Complaint process through the Division of Public Utilities is to enforce uniform residential utility service practices and procedures governing eligibility, deposits, account billing, termination, and deferred payment agreements.

Because your complaint pertains to a topic being evaluated by the Public Service Commission under Docket No. 13-035-184, I have forwarded your comments to the Commission for review. You also have the right to attend the Public Witness Hearing on July 29th to voice your concerns. You may follow the proceedings for this case at: www.psc.utah.gov.

Respectfully,

Erika Tedder
Office Specialist
Division of Public Utilities
(801)-530-6653
Business hours are 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday

UTILITY CUSTOMER:
FROM: Sam Lentz
PHONE: 408-859-4662
EMAIL: h.j.lentz@gmail.com
IP: 50.160.42.37

SERVICE ADDRESS:
882 W 1720 N
Orem, UT 84057

MAILING ADDRESS:
882 W 1720 N
Orem, UT 84057

UTILITY: Rocky Mountain Power
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 422983910015

COMPLAINT TYPE: Additional Charges

COMPLAINT: Today I learned that Rocky Mountain Power is proposing charging customers with solar panels an extra \$4.25 monthly fee. I spoke with Margaret Oler from RMP External Communications & Media Relations, and I am upset with RMP's Public Relations spin to explain why they want to unfairly target me and those like me for extra charges. Her explanation was that, as I produce most of my own electricity, I will not be paying my fair share of their infrastructure costs. In reality, I am using all the same infrastructure everyone else is—I'm just using it less. If they're concerned that they won't sufficiently be able to cover their infrastructure costs, they should increase their minimum charge for everyone, not just solar panel owners.

If their justification was honest and accurate, then their proposed model ignores the fact that customers who don't use any RMP electricity—but don't have solar panels—would also not be paying their share of "infrastructure costs." Yet these customers would not be charged the same monthly fee solar panel owners would be charged.

Another fact demonstrating the proposed fee's inequity is that the flat rate of \$4.25 per month does not take into account how many panels the customer has installed or is using. In other words, a customer with a single solar panel that is not even switched on would be charged the same as a customer operating 300 solar panels. RMP is

trying to say this proposal will make their rates fairer, but there is nothing fair about this proposal.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTION: Please do not accept Rocky Mountain Power's proposal to assess a \$4.25 monthly fee to customers with solar panels. It's would be a clear disincentive for customers to invest in clean energy and would inequitably distribute the burden of costs among customers. If anything, customers with solar panels should be rewarded for promoting a cleaner, healthier Utah.