

RALPH BECKER
MAYOR



VICKI BENNETT
SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTOR

Sustainability Division

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

July 8, 2014

RE: Docket No. 13-035-184

Dear Commissioners:

Salt Lake City is continually working on numerous initiatives within our jurisdiction to identify and enable viable, cost-effective solutions to the complex environmental and energy-related challenges of the Wasatch Front and the Western United States. We are committed to pursuing efforts that simultaneously reduce harmful air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; address drought; improve our quality of life; generate new economic development opportunities; and advance cost-effective, secure and stable energy resources for our constituents. Renewable distributed generation not only provides these benefits, but also empowers our constituents to be directly involved in the improvement of our local community.

However, if approved, Rocky Mountain Powers' proposed \$4.65 fee for net metering customers will stifle several of Salt Lake City's initiatives to address these important issues, as well as our constituents' active participation in these efforts. Therefore, we are writing to request that the Commission decline the current proposal, and if necessary, open a new docket to fully review the many benefits that residential rooftop solar brings to our community and our region. Senate Bill 208 requires analysis of the costs *and benefits* of net metered solar generation. Currently, Rocky Mountain Power does not account for these benefits, and the analysis of the costs simply does not justify the proposed fee.

Salt Lake City and Mayor Becker support the directive from the Utah State Legislature to fully examine the costs and benefits of Rocky Mountain Power's net metering program. We also encourage the Commission, now and in the future, to consider renewable distributed generation as a fuel-free, least-cost means to hedge against impending environmental and energy-related issues facing Utah and the West. We commend the Commission for taking this issue seriously and providing the public with notice and an opportunity to comment on the issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vicki Bennett".

Vicki Bennett
Sustainability Director