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## Comments on Docket 13-035-184

1 message

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**Lucy Irene Terry** <irene.terry@utah.edu>

Tue, Jul 22, 2014 at 8:40 AM

Reply-To: irene.terry@utah.edu

To: psc@utah.gov

I write to express my strong support for Utah rooftop solar customers, and my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed fee increase of \$4.25 per month targeting these customers. Utah's solar owners are making critical investments in clean energy at a time when Rocky Mountain Power is not. In addition, PV solar is becoming more and more cost effective which encourages more and more people to install PV for homes and businesses. As our population grows and more electrical energy is needed, it only makes sense to add cleaner energy sources into the energy mix that help with air quality and contribute to healthier environment. It is difficult to put a direct metric on these kinds of benefits.

Because Rocky Mountain Power's energy mix predominately relies on burning dirty coal, it is a huge source of air pollution. In fact, among all Western utilities, Rocky Mountain Power is the single largest source of air pollution.

When rooftop solar customers plug their solar panels into Rocky Mountain Power's grid, they offset some of that dirty energy with pollution-free solar power.

And although these solar customers used their own money to buy solar equipment, the benefits accrue to many Utahns -- in the form of reduced air pollution, protection against fossil fuel price swings, and the creation of clean energy jobs right here in Utah.

Each individual rooftop solar installation is relatively small, but together their contribution is growing -- projected to comprise 20 MW by the end of 2014.

Solar customers are doing exactly what I wish Rocky Mountain Power would do: invest in Utah's renewable energy resources! I am very concerned that a solar penalty will stop some customers from "going solar" and impede progress toward renewables across the grid.

I stand with the rooftop solar energy producers of Utah and ask that the \$4.25 solar penalty ( or any penalty ) not be approved. Their personal investment in clean energy creates clear benefits to Utah's health, environment, and economy. They should not be penalized; rather, they should be commended.

If this is promoted by Rocky Mountain Power as only a fair surtax on those with PV ( that are reducing the need for more coal and perhaps more infrastructure) because they are not paying for maintenance or upkeep or new facilities, then all others who are reducing their use of the grid power should be paying that too. Why just target those who have invested in solar PV? Not that I am saying that there should be a surtax at all. There should not be. We all pay a base fee to RMP if we are tied to the grid, so what is the actual cost to them?

Sincerely,  
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