



Comments on Docket 13-035-184

1 message

Judith Warner <judith.warner@hsc.utah.edu>

Tue, Jul 22, 2014 at 10:03 AM

Reply-To: judith.warner@hsc.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. I want to point out that not only do we (solar customers) pay a base fee to be hooked up to Rocky Mountain Power (\$14 per month), but we also have to pay monthly for power (\$7), even if we don't use any electricity! I do not think we are parasites on the non-solar customers' backs, as implied in communication with Rocky Mountain Power!

Because Rocky Mountain Power's energy mix predominately relies on burning 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 further \$4.25 solar 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.

Sincerely,

Judith Warner
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