



DOCKET NO. 13-035-184 I urge the Utah PSC to not allow a fee to be charged for solar panels

1 message

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I urge the Utah PSC to not allow a fee to be charged for solar panel generating customers/suppliers at this time. To charge a fee now would discourage installations of these systems and at least we should wait until there is a significant percentage of use (like at least 10%).

I disagree that NEMS studies show that solar power homes subsidize regular RMP customers. The best study that I know of is the California PUC study (California Net Energy Metering (NEM) Draft Cost-Effectiveness Evaluation by California Public Utilities Commission Energy Division September 26, 2013. Although it is 319 pages, page 3 is a good summary. This issue is too complicated to get a definite effect at this time. Utah should wait until a 10% penetration is reached and a more thorough and realistic study is done.

Finally, this area will have an earthquake that should be expected to destroy our power grid for over a month. The solar panel installations can provide emergency power to neighborhoods (with study) and emergency crews. Solar panels would help Utah's Wasatch Front moderate the effects of the next major earthquake that we have.

In summary, for these three reasons, the Utah PSC should remove the proposed solar panel fee:

IT'S TOO EARLY TO CLAMP DOWN ON SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATIONS.

THE FEE SHOULD WAIT UNTIL AT LEAST 10% PENETRATION TO GAUGE THE EFFECT.

SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO HELP DURING EMERGENCIES.

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