



Docket 13-035-184

1 message

Colleen English <cjenglish@hotmail.com>

Mon, Jul 28, 2014 at 9:40 PM

To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov>

To whom it may concern,

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 for solar customers to "operate and maintain transmission and distribution systems". Utah's solar owners are making critical investments in clean energy. The administrative, operational and maintenance costs necessary to operate Rocky Mountain Power's grid are already factored into their current fee structure, including their utility rates. No further surcharge is necessary for solar customers.

Because Rocky Mountain Power's energy mix predominately relies on coal. Rooftop solar customers are tied into Rocky Mountain Power's grid and contribute any surplus energy generated by their solar panels into the grid.

This carries no extra cost to Rocky Mountain Power and it also serves to offset some of the pollution associated with more traditional power sources such as coal.

Although solar customers use their own money to buy solar equipment, the benefits accrue to many Utahns -- in the form of reduced air pollution so critical for this valley, protection against fossil fuel price swings, and the creation of clean energy jobs 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 investing in the same types of technology that Rocky Mountain Power should investigate. We are investing in Utah's renewable energy resources. I am very concerned that a monthly solar fee will be viewed as a penalty, potentially deterring some customers from "going solar" and impeding progress toward renewable resources across the grid.

I stand with the rooftop solar energy producers of Utah and ask that the \$4.25 monthly solar surcharge not be approved. Their personal investment in clean energy creates clear benefits to Utah's health, environment and economy.

Sincerely,
Colleen English