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## Proposed Fee on Residential Solar Power

1 message

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**Paula Trater** <ptrater@hotmail.com>  
To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov>

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Paula Trater and Michael Cooper  
P.O. Box 606  
Oakley, UT 84055  
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Dear Public Service Commission,

We would like to protest Rocky Mountain Power's proposed surcharge on solar power producers. We feel the greater issue here is Rocky Mountain Power's failure to commit to producing greener energy. Because they are a monopoly, we have no choice but to purchase power through them. Other power companies have moved far more quickly than Rocky Mountain to provide their customers with geothermal, wind and solar clean energy. We would have much preferred to buy clean energy from Rocky Mountain Power rather than install an expensive solar system on our home.

Rocky Mountain Power pays lip service to green energy through its highly publicized Blue Sky program. However, most of the revenue from this program is used to purchase Renewable Energy Credits (REC's) from other companies. Because they are a public utility with no competition, Rocky Mt Power has an obligation to act in the public's best interest. And the Public Service Commission has an obligation to see that they do this. Clean air is in everyone's best interest.

We know that burning coal is no longer seen as an optimal way to produce power. Utility regulators in other states have mandated that power companies begin a transition to renewable energy. Many of America's biggest corporations, such as Google, have made major commitments to clean energy. If Utah cannot make these changes, there will come a day when we're no longer seen as a desirable place to live or do business.

Rooftop solar is only a drop in the bucket, and the fee Rocky Mountain Power is proposing is so small as a total of their budget that it will have no effect on the rates power users are charged. However, the symbolism of this proposal sends the wrong message, that RMP has no interest in providing clean power to its users. And if the public service commission allows this increase, it will not have acted in the best interest of Utah consumers.

Paula Trater and Michael Cooper