

Fee increase for solar customers

1 message

Jake Larsen <jacob.randy.larsen@gmail.com> To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov> Mon, Aug 4, 2014 at 11:02 AM

Utah Public Service Commission:

We are writing this email to voice our opposition to an increase in fees for owners of rooftop solar panels. My wife and I are renters and do not have solar panels, nor do we currently own our own place. Nonetheless, we believe there is significant, long-lasting impact to be gained by the entire community from individuals who undertake on their own the cost to generate their own electricity via solar panels.

The proposed fee is a negative incentive and undermines the expansion of alternative energy we need to combat the inversion and negative health costs associated with poor air quality. We should be taking a page out of one of the best economies in the world right now, Germany, which has smartly incentivized their citizens to pump back electricity into the grid and encourages them to make substantial investment in solar power.

We urge you to disallow the fee increase for solar panel residents. Even though we ourselves cannot (yet) install our own solar panels, we value and support those that do. We want to see these types of expansions go forward because we know that unless these types of initiatives are not undertaken on a massive scale, Utah will not be as economically competitive as we could be. Pollution is a negative externality and coal fired power contributes to air particulate matter. Utah's poor air quality will discourage companies from putting down roots here or expanding. It will discourage young families from choosing the Wasatch front as the place where they want to raise their children. Solar power is part of a solution to our dilemma of being surrounded by mountains and having a burgeoning population. Please do everything in your power to support the expansion of actions that collectively benefit all Utahans.

Sincerely,

Jacob & Jessica Larsen Pleasant Grove, UT