

December 2, 2016

Public Service Commission  
160 East 300 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Dear Commission Members:                    Rocky Mountain Power Company proposed  
Rate increase

It was most upsetting to hear that the Power Company was applying for a change in their rates schedules regarding Solar Power customers. We, as well as other solar customers, have invested a large amount of our money to have our solar systems installed. The system we installed has been very reliable to date and maintenance free. We have installed this system to insure electric power to our home and avoid further rate increases. We also have a well which provides all of our water needs. If this rate change is approved by the Commission, we and the other residential customers who use Solar Power, will be forced to increase our Solar Power invests to purchase and install storage batteries to collect the excess power we produce during the daylight hours instead of back feeding this power to the Power Company. They in turn sell this electricity to there customers at a much higher price. We don't understand why they need to change the present rate structure. This solar equipment helps to insure we have electricity and water from our well. We do not believe Rocky Mountain Power is justified in applying for this rate change just for solar power customers.

This is a repeat experience involving Utah Power & Light and Rocky Mountain Power Company, the present electric provider. We built a new home and installed electrical equipment that would that was within the Gold Medallion Home Plan requirements. We were given a lower power rate as part of the offered in Utah Power & Light Company' plan. A few years later they presented a new rate change and I assume was approved by the Commission which removed us from the lower rate schedule. Immediately our electric bill tripled in size.

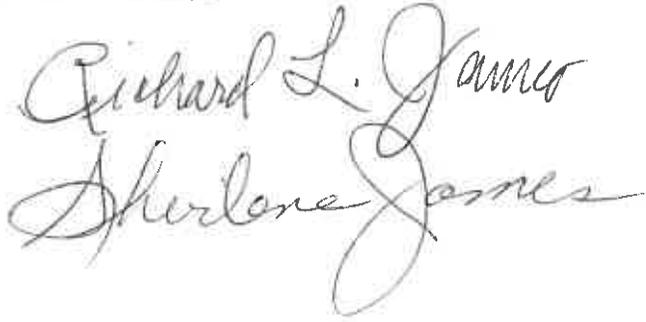
My wife was employed by a power provider, some time of which, was in the accounting department, for many years. Daytime was always high demand and night time was always low demand rates. Special rates were charged to large companies who have a large demand. Also included were governments. I believe this is still the way rates are set . We familiar with rates in Arizona. High demand is always in the daytime and low demand is in the night time. We have inquired about the large solar farms that are being built with the electric companies buying the power they produce. I cannot imagine that these large solar farms are in favor of the increase. I assume the power companies are their best customers. That is the major reason they are built. They have to make a profit on what they produce and if this proposed rate passes they will have a hard time make a profit. Unless, however, they are given a better return than the residential customers are. They may also sell to some large manufacturing companies and governments. A rate change will damage the majority of our ability to repay our loans for the cost of the solar installations. What we get now is not a very large amount. They have computers to figure the amount they receive from residential customers. I cannot imagine that it very difficult to get the figures in and out. Rocky Mountain Power Company is continuing their advertising on television for more customers to install solar panel systems. I am of the opinion it this is so they can collect more income or do the solar farms get a break on their rates? These new unknowing residential customers will get caught with a lesser way to recover the cost they incurred buying

and having the solar system installation and maybe storage batteries.

If this rate increase is passed by the Commission was asked for, the residential customers having solar power Company will be the taken advantage of again. It is my understand that the Commission is required to respect and protect the all people who are customers. **I ask you not to pass the rate increase asked for by the Power Company.**

Sincerely:

Richard & Shirlene James

Handwritten signatures of Richard L. James and Shirlene James. The signatures are written in cursive and are positioned one above the other.

Tuesday morning  
December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
8:51 A.M.

Utah Public Service Commission- -solar panel issues  
Post Office Box 45585  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115-0585

Good morning!!

I realize that you do not know who I am. But now that I have a few moments before I need to get ready for work (I drive for U.T.A.—28 plus wonderful years!!) I thought I would put in my two cents worth (For whatever it's worth!!) concerning roof top solar.

It was two years ago this past May that I had solar panels installed on my home. I went solar for personal, political, and environmental reasons. Call this a "feel good" decision on my part. It truly the best decision that I have ever made for I am most convinced that every little helps when it comes to reducing CO 2 emissions as well helping improve the air quality here along the Wasatch Front. Before I go air further, the solar panels generate far more electricity (Even during the winter months) than what I use. This doesn't bother me one bit!!

About Rocky Mountain Power wanting to impose a tariff on new roof top installations. In some ways I can understand where Rocky Mountain Power is coming from, for roof top solar is musccling (To use the vernacular) in own on its business and most businesses do not like competition!! For of us who are generating more electricity than what we use (I also contribute to the Blue Sky Program), Rocky Mountain Power is using free electricity and we are not getting a red cent back except for a credit, a credit that I have never used.

There is something else that needs to be taken into consideration- -something that does cause me to smile. For years it seemed that Rocky Mountain Power did not have much use for clean energy except for some of its wind farm in nearby states. What caused me to "smile" is that a couple of months ago in the monthly statement there was a flyer stating that one can now purchase solar generated electricity from Rocky Mountain Power's own solar farms. In other words, if you can't beat them, join them!! Don't you love the irony of it all? I guess what I'm trying to say is that as a consumer I wanted clean energy. Rocky Mountain Power was not into clean energy all that much so as a consumer I decided to take the bull by the horns and I had roof top solar installed.

I realize that the Utah Public Service Commission needs to make a decision that is fair for both Rocky Mountain Power and the little guy- -those of us who have gone solar and those who are not solar. It does seem to me that Rocky Mountain Power is trying using its political clout to have it their way and that the solar industry which includes those who us who have gone solar and those who are considering going solar be damned!! That is not right in my opinion.

I realize that this letter is of many that the Public Service Commission has received in regards to roof top solar. All I ask of the Public Service Commission is to give this letter and others that you have received serious consideration before a decision is made. In some ways what taking place here in Utah (And in other states) is a David versus Goliath. I doubt that my letter will do very little into factoring into the decision that will be made but I felt strong enough about this subject to write this letter. Thank you so very much for taking the time to read this letter.

With respect,



Steven Schaffer