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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of Consumer Services

MICHELE BECK
Director

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Office of Consumer Services
Michele Beck, Director
Cheryl Murray, Utility Analyst

Date: July 13, 2018

Subject: Reply Comments
Proposed Rulemaking Concerning Utah Code Ann. § 54-17-807, Solar Photovoltaic or Thermal Solar Energy Facilities, Enacted May 8, 2018. Docket No. 18-R450-01

Background

On May 31, 2018, the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request for Comments (Notice) related to H.B. 261, Renewable Energy Amendments. The notice provided that comments may be submitted by Friday, June 29, 2018 and reply comments, including draft rule language, may be submitted by Friday, July 13, 2018. On June 29, 2018, the following parties submitted comments: Office of Consumer Services (Office), Rocky Mountain Power, Utah Clean Energy, Utah Solar Energy Association, sPower, First Solar, and Interwest Energy Alliance.

Reply Comments

The Office has reviewed the comments submitted by the parties listed above. Without having specific proposed rulemaking language associated with the issues and concerns raised, it is difficult to provide specific responses. Further, the Office is not in a position to provide a complete draft of rules to address the issues raised in its own comments. Thus, the Office requests that the Commission add additional opportunities to provide more focused comments or suggested rules while the drafting remains in the forum of the Commission, i.e. prior to submitting into the formal rulemaking process. For example, the Commission could:

- Allow parties to comment and submit edits based on any complete draft of rules that are submitted in this reply comment phase;
- Distribute a draft rulemaking for comment after the Commission incorporates all suggestions received; and/or
- Schedule a technical conference to give parties an opportunity to clarify specific competing concerns about individual concepts incorporated in the rules.

July 13, 2018

The Office respectfully asserts that additional opportunities for input in front of the Commission will result in a better outcome that appropriately protects consumers and the competitive process.

CC: Chris Parker, Division of Public Utilities
Joelle Steward, Rocky Mountain Power