

January 27, 2026

To: Utah Public Service Commission
PSC@utah.gov

From: Jeff Satsuda
Mamachari Kombucha
333 Hope Ave, Salt Lake City 84115

Re: Need for interconnection rules update, submitted as public comment on Docket No. 23-R312-01

Proposed 45.1 kW dc, 39.3 kW ac solar with 3 Solar Edge inverters for 3-phase 240 V Delta High-Leg Electric Service

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for working to understand interconnection barriers and means to update and streamline interconnection through Docket No. 23-R312-01. As a small business owner, I'm writing today to share some of my experiences with the interconnection process and to request that the PSC update interconnection rules to accommodate customers who wish to generate electricity on site.

Mamachari Kombucha is a small, family-owned business on the west side of Salt Lake City. We won a competitive application process with Salt Lake City Sustainability to be the recipient of a \$75,000 Salt Lake Solar Powered Communities grant to install a modest 45 kW solar system at our facility. The proposed solar installation was projected to provide approximately 80% of our electricity usage, thus greatly reducing our operating costs and increasing the viability of our business. Unfortunately, due to interconnection issues and transformer upgrade costs we have not been able to take advantage of this opportunity.

After consulting with multiple installers, we chose to work with Creative Energies as our solar installer. In January 2025, Mamachari Kombucha signed a contract with Creative Energies and paid a non-refundable \$5,000 downpayment with the understanding that the system would be installed in June 2025. After 5 months of back and forth with Rocky Mountain Power after Creative Energies submitted their interconnection request in April 2025, this project was not able to interconnect due to issues with our transformer. What is concerning about this process is:

- (1) RMP engaged in lengthy conversations and reviews without knowing what kind of transformer existed at this property. This created confusion and required that the solar system be re-engineered.
- (2) the installer re-engineered the project three times only to still have it rejected, even when a zero-export system was proposed;

- (3) there is no option for pre-application review or information on capacity availability to determine the viability of a solar system before going through lengthy and expensive engineering processes;
- (4) the timeline for review and response took five months; and
- (5) it is impossible to get information about age and capacity constraints on existing transformers, and it is not clear when an old transformer is the responsibility of the utility and when it is the responsibility of the customer.

While we do not see a way to move this project forward due to the prohibitive expense of a new transformer, we implore you to pursue procedures to improve the interconnection process so other businesses and their installers don't need to spend so much time and resources on projects that require costly upgrades in order to proceed.

We request that the Division of Public Utilities and the Public Service Commission take next steps in the *Investigation into Possible Amendment of Utah Admin. Code R746-312, Electrical Interconnection* (Docket No: [23-R312-01](#)) and consider formal rulemaking to address time-consuming, unclear, and inefficient interconnection processes.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue,

Jeff Satsuda, Owner
Mamachari Kombucha
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