



**SALT LAKE
COUNTY**

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Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building, 4th Floor
160 East 300 South
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Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for providing Salt Lake County with the opportunity to comment on Docket 07-035-T14 and Rocky Mountain Power's Schedule 107-Solar Incentive Program 2009 Annual Report. As a partner on the Solar Salt Lake Project, a project of the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar America Cities Initiative, we are supportive of Rocky Mountain Power's Pilot Solar Incentive Program and appreciate all the work that has gone into the program to date.

As Salt Lake County continues our collaborative efforts to remove barriers to solar adoption for our residents and businesses, and hopefully, throughout the State, we are keenly interested in seeing Utah (and Utah's utilities) adopt more robust solar incentive programs. With Utah's tremendous solar resources, we stand to benefit from efforts to jumpstart our solar market and tap into new opportunities for economic development, energy diversity and security, and a cleaner energy future. According to a 2009 study conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy's Database of State Incentives for Renewable and Efficiency (DSIRE), incentives are one of the four fundamental pillars of a strong solar market. The design and scope of the incentive programs, however, must be adequate and appropriate to drive the solar market and create economies of scale, helping to bring the costs of solar down and, ideally, attract new supply chain markets, such as solar module manufacturing.

As I understand it, when the Commission approved this program in 2007, their order directed Rocky Mountain Power to provide a report within three years of the program's adoption to assess whether changes are warranted in any element of the Program, including the caps.¹ As the third year of its solar pilot program concludes, we strongly encourage the Commission to initiate an appropriate proceeding (open to any interested parties) to conduct a comprehensive review of this program in order identify opportunities for improvement and expansion, in accordance with the aforementioned order.

¹ Docket 07-035-T14, In the Matter of the Approval of Rocky Mountain Power's Tariff P.S.C.U. No. 47, Re: Schedule 107 - Solar Incentive Program. Public Service Commission Order Approving Tariff with Certain Conditions. 08/03/07. URL: <http://www.psc.utah.gov/utilities/electric/elecindx/2006-2009/07035T14indx.html>

As part of this review, we are interested in a thorough and transparent analysis of the costs and benefits to customers and the utility of the current pilot program, as well as a more expanded and modified version of this program. We are also interested in seeing how this program compares to other programs across the country so that we can draw from best practices nationwide.

Salt Lake County appreciates Rocky Mountain Power's efforts over the last three years to develop and implement this pilot program. We very much look forward to working with all interested parties on the next steps. Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,



Peter M. Corroon
Mayor, Salt Lake County