Trixie Behr - Fwd: Solar Incentive Program

Public Service Commission From:

To: Behr, Trixie

UTAH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 5/17/2011 5:34 PM Date:

Subject: Fwd: Solar Incentive Program

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>>> Ross Chambless . 5/17/2011 2:15 PM >>>

Dear Public Service Commission,

I am writing in regard to the pending extension of the Solar Incentive Program offered by Rocky Mountain Power. As a resident of Salt Lake City, I believe this is a critically important energy program for myself and other residents living in Utah. Although I do not currently have solar PV equipment installed where I live, (I am currently renting), I do hope to be able to install solar PV in the future. This program DOES create an incentive for people like me to install a solar PV system in the future, because it would make it that much more affordable.

Also, small-scale, residential renewable sources of energy DO benefit people like me who can't necessarily afford those systems right now. As long as more people in my community are able to install solar PV systems through distributed generation, demand for Rocky Mountain Power's fossil fuel-generated electricity will be mitigated. This ultimately helps to reduce - albeit gradually and little by little - the whole list of environmental and health externalities that are occurring because of burning coal and natural gas for our power. When Rocky Mountain Power says the program is not "a cost effective resource" it is not looking at the overall hidden costs of its power generation, which currently transfers the costs to my health and my family's health.

The Solar Incentive Program needs to be continued. It is important to encourage all residents and business owners in our community to adopt energy efficiency measures and renewable electricity alternatives. Rocky Mountain Power should be credited for beginning this program, and it should continue. I urge the Public Service Commission to find that continuing this program serves the public interest.

Thank You,

Ross Chambless Salt Lake City, Utah