

November 3, 2008

Public Service Commission,

I am writing to throw in my two cents about net metering and interconnection of alternative power sources onto the utility grid.

My name is David Crowther and I am an Owner/Partner of Cedar Storage Rentals. We recently installed 11 net metering solar systems ranging from 1 to 3 KW for a new commercial building. I have done many hours of research for the uses of solar in a commercial and residential setting and have a few suggestions that will improve consumers willingness to install solar systems and improve the process overall.

Governing Authority: Giving governing authority to the Utility companies is a horrible idea. Especially with Rocky Mountain Power being the sole service provider to most, if not all, of the grid in Utah. Where there is a monopoly there must be an oversight of some kind. Rocky Mountain Power has been friendly to speak with but slow and reluctant to inform, inspect, or install anything to do with solar. I will strongly support the authority staying with the Utah Public Service Commission.

Compensation for Power Produced: Currently there is no incentive at all to produce power for the grid and very little to create power to off set our own needs due to very low compensation for power produced. If we really do want a state and a country the is less dependent on others for power then we need to change this. The only reason we decided to build our systems for a new commercial building was the perfect combination of rebates (which has now expired). And even then it was only carried out because of our love for southern Utah and a desire to be part of an energy solution for it. Without those two factors there will be no new systems built unless the compensation is improved. Currently Rocky Mountain power charges more for 'green' energy than normal power through the Blue Sky Program and so there is no reason that they could not at least roll that increase on to the people who make it possible for the program to exist.

I hope that my suggestions will at least be listened to and hopefully usefully to policy makers and to the promising field of alternative energy production.

Sincerely,

David Crowther

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