

From: Julie Orchard
To: Petersen, Rea
Date: 10/13/2008 12:24 PM
Subject: Fwd: Comment on customer-generated electricity credits

CC:

Perhaps we should add this to the rate case docket as well since he is discussing net metering options. Thanks. JPO

>>> "John Osgood" <[redacted]> 10/8/2008 3:31 PM >>>
Dear Ms. Orchard,

Thank you for taking our comments. I live in Cody, Wyoming and have been a customer-generator of electricity for my electric utility, the City of Cody, for eleven months now (since November 7, 2007). My grid-tied PV array is rated at a nominal 2000 watts (10 200-watt modules), and it looks like it is going to generate about 2600 KWh (kilowatt-hours) of electricity in its first year of operation. My own use is around 2 KWh per day, or around 750 KWh per year.

I receive a monthly credit from the city that amounts to around \$14.00-\$16.00 for the surplus that I generate. My feeling is that since renewable energy is a benefit to all, because it is non-polluting and locally usable (meaning that there are no long-distance transmission line losses) and has posed no cost to the local utility, it should be reimbursed at the retail rate level. This would be an additional encouragement to people to install renewable energy equipment. The more electricity we don't have to bring in from the outside, the better off we are. The head of my local electricity provider, Bert Pond, told me that about 75% of Cody's electricity comes from coal-fired plants, and the other 25% he estimates comes from hydro. The longer I live with my PV system, the more I realize that if everyone had one of these things humming in their backyard or on their roof, the much greater would be the renewable systems' contribution to the local electricity supply and the less electricity we would have to import, and consequently the simpler and cheaper our grid system would have to be. This is my opinion. Thank you for receiving it.

Sincerely,

John Osgood