



Docket Number: 13-035-184

1 message

Curtis, Steve <steve.curtis@pearson.com>

Fri, Jul 25, 2014 at 3:53 PM

To: PSC@utah.gov

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to voice my opposition to the request by RMP to create a "Net Metering Facilities Charge" of \$4.65/month.

I am a longtime power user of RMP and have recently heeded the call to reduce my energy consumption through a systemic approach to installing lower consumption lighting and appliances, utilizing more intelligent energy management, and installing rooftop solar. This was a substantial investment on my part including well over \$1,000 in fees paid to directly RMP.

By significantly reducing my energy consumption I am providing a benefit and reduced cost to RMP. I will be using less of their infrastructure proportionally than I was before installing rooftop solar and net metering. It simply makes no sense to me why just as I'm reducing my consumption of RMP's resources I'm being asked to contribute more than my legacy energy consuming neighbors.

The argument seems to be that RMP is somehow disproportionately subsidizing the costs for net meter customers. Nothing could be further from the truth. What the rooftop solar community will likely do is to begin to cut the cord and become completely energy independent if this direction is continued. It's something many of us have already considered. This will result in fewer and fewer ratepayers supporting the infrastructure of RMP and creating a more dramatic shift of the costs of maintaining the power grid away from us and towards the non-renewable energy consumer.

It's simple really: with net metering I have the opportunity to feed renewable energy back into the grid reducing the cost of energy production for RMP and their consumers. Without net metering I will keep all that renewable energy production to myself. The community will enjoy the benefit of my reduced pollution either way. But ratepayers only enjoy the benefits if I keep net metering. This unfair fee of \$4.65/month will make it much less likely that I will retain net metering in the future. I'll simply store my energy and consume what I need.

If RMP really needs to offset the costs of net metering customers they should allocate net metering energy production into their bluesky program and sell it for those increased rates (above what they pay netmeter customers). That would truly be in the spirit of their blue sky program and support renewable energy generation and use. This net meter fee seems to do just the opposite.

Kind Regards,

Steve Curtis

