

To Utah Public Service Commission

July 29, 2014

Heber Wells Bldg, Salt Lake City, Utah

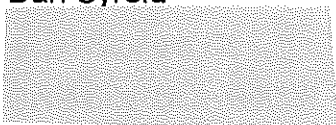
As a homeowner who has invested many thousands of dollars in a 4.3 kw (16 panel) grid tied solar array, I am outraged and disturbed at the prospect of the monthly fee that Rocky Mountain Power has proposed. I strongly urge the Utah Public Service Commission to deny this very bad proposal. Here are some points that the PSC should consider:

The case against a Solar Fee:

1. Solar energy systems on homes and businesses require owners invest their capital to produce energy going to the grid, thus avoiding capital costs to RMP.
2. Much of this solar energy occurs during peak demand hours, making it highly valuable.
3. Any fees to homeowners and businesses will discourage additional solar investment, which is very bad policy.
4. PSC and RMP should be doing all that is possible to encourage clean solar
5. The Wasatch front with its horrendous dirty air conditions needs to move rapidly away from dirty fossil fuels
6. Development of Solar and wind power along with rapid deployment of Electric Vehicles is the only sane path to dealing with rampant climate change and air and water pollution.
7. Much of solar power is distributed locally, minimizing impact on the RMP grid and high voltage transmission structure.
8. Any solar power generated reduces the need for polluting fossil fuel generation.
9. So called cleaner Nat. Gas has issues with methane leakage (an 80 times more potent green house gas than CO2. Also fracking appears to induce earthquakes. Solar is non polluting and the fuel is free.
10. Utah is dead last compared to other western states in developing clean energy like solar.
11. RMP should have a strong plan for integrating renewable energy, including electric storage systems to stabilize the grid.
12. PSC must include minimizing of pollution from fossil fuels, which is killing thousands of Utahns and causing severe health issues for many more. Even if the PSC chooses to ignore the moral issue here, the economic impact is huge.
14. Utah is one of the top 7 states for solar generation potential, yet is last among its neighbors in production.
15. As climate change worsens and becomes obvious to even the most hardened deniers, a carbon tax will become imperative and will cause fossil fuel based electric power costs to soar. Solar and wind power need to be ramped up to large scale to protect the rate payers.

Respectfully submitted, and a response is requested.

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