



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

19,337 signers: Save Solar for Utah - Affordable Solar Power in Jeopardy in Utah petition

1 message

Ryan Evans <petitions@moveon.org>
To: Public Service Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 2:26 AM

Dear Public Service Commission,

I started a petition to you titled [Save Solar for Utah - Affordable Solar Power in Jeopardy in Utah](#). So far, the petition has 19,337 total signers.

You can post a response for us to pass along to all petition signers by clicking here: http://petitions.moveon.org/target_talkback.html?tt=tt-115677-custom-75514-20261206-fpKLsO

The petition states:

"Stop Rocky Mountain Power from Killing Residential Solar in Utah Over the last year, Rocky Mountain Power's sister company killed 99% of residential solar in Nevada. Now, Rocky Mountain Power is trying to do the same thing in Utah, by asking the Utah Public Service Commission to approve one of the most aggressive, anti-consumer, anti-competitive, and anti-solar proposals ever brought forth by a utility in the United States. The Commission is required to study the costs and benefits of residential solar in Utah. Most states have found that residential solar provides a net benefit to everyone, not just solar customers. Rocky Mountain Power ignores the full benefits and demonstrated cost-savings that they and all Utahns receive from residential solar. Utah deserves an open and transparent cost-benefit study. We call on Governor Herbert, the Utah Legislature, the Utah Public Service Commission, the Utah Division of Public Utilities, and the Utah Office of Consumer Services to reject Rocky Mountain Power's proposal. We ask the Commission to conduct a robust and fair cost-benefit study so that Utah homeowners can continue to invest in solar and energy independence."

To download a PDF file of all your constituents who have signed the petition, including their addresses, click this link: http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver_pdf.html?job_id=1908848&target_type=custom&target_id=75514

To download a CSV file of all of your constituents who have signed the petition, including their addresses, click this link: http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver_pdf.html?job_id=1908848&target_type=custom&target_id=75514&csv=1

Thank you.

—Ryan Evans

If you have any other questions, please email petitions@moveon.org.

The links to download the petition as a PDF and to respond to all of your constituents will remain available for the next 14 days.

This email was sent through MoveOn's petition website, a free service that allows anyone to set up their own online petition and share it with friends. MoveOn does not endorse the contents of petitions posted on our public petition website. If you don't want to receive further emails updating you on how many people have signed this petition, click here: http://petitions.moveon.org/delivery_unsub.html?e=Ly_sxWisHzEtWsNiXJK703BzY0B1dGFoLmdvdg--&petition_id=115677.



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Fwd: Public Service Commission

1 message

Gary Widerburg <gwiderburg@utah.gov>
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 9:13 AM

——— Forwarded message ———

From: <constituentservices@utah.gov>
Date: Monday, December 5, 2016
Subject: Public Service Commission
To: gwiderburg@utah.gov

December 5, 2016

Cain, Tyler

You have been assigned to reply to the following issue:

Constituent: Anderson, Pamela**Constituent Address:**Pamela Anderson
5026 South Jordan Canal Road
Taylorsville UT 84118**Constituent Email:** panderson@slcpl.org**Mobile #:****Home #:****Office #:****Subject:** Public Service Commission

Request (Closed): Subject: Rocky Mountain Power and Solar Greetings, I'm taking the time to comment about this issue and hope it will be received and considered. Rocky Mountain Power is using inflammatory language in a blatant attempt to rile up uninformed non-solar users in a money grabbing attempt to maintain profits. Phrases such as "not paying their fair share" and "non-solar users subsidize solar user's bills" are not only inaccurate, they are a feeble attempt to sway popular opinion in their favor. As a solar customer I do not use more than my "fair share" of RMP's grid. If their basic fees, which I am assessed, do not cover the cost of maintaining power lines, then I request the following happen: 1. An independent audit of RMP must occur and an impartial party must determine what it actually costs a utility company to "maintain the grid" 2. This amount should be equally assessed to all customers, as a flat fee, clearly identified, and as a separate line item on each customer's bill. The current method of stating that the grid fee is rolled up into the actual consumption of energy fee is muddy, non-transparent, unaccountable, vague, not trackable, unfair, unethical, and may I suggest illegal. 3. No one subsidizes my electric bill. Most days we generate more than we use. We currently have a "credit" with RMP. No money ever changes hands. RMP is intentionally misleading the public to believe that solar customers are in fact receiving monetary reimbursements. The fact of the matter is, at the end of the year (March) I will be giving a free gift of excess power to RMP. I propose that if RMP proposes to assign new fees and change the net metering agreement, the excess power generated by solar customers needs to be bought back at the end of the cycle, not "donated" to RMP. They can't have it both ways. 4. Finally, I invested tens of thousands of dollars in a solar system based on the current structure of RMP's solar billing. For them to change the rules after I have been under this agreement for less than a year is an egregious money grab. I've read that the commission is wondering if it's legal for RMP to have different net metering rules for solar customers. *If you don't allow RMP to grandfather in existing customers, we are all left with a huge financial investment but with power bill fees that could potentially make our bills as

high as they were before. This is so anti-consumer, anti-clean energy, and anti-free market that I am stunned at the prospect that Utah is even considering it. Rocky Mountain Power is losing profit due to their short sighted investment and strategies and is trying to line their pockets on the backs of consumers who are making investments in future technologies, cleaner strategies, and utility bills that we can control. I implore you to put a stop to their aggressive attacks on solar customers. I request that you audit RMP and see where the truth lies in how much their product actually costs, not these generalized amounts they are throwing around in the news. It should not cost a solar customer more than it did when they were using full electricity! Finally, RMP will keep bringing this forward to legislation until they get their way, unless the Commission and the State stand up to them, look out for consumers, the environment, and new markets, and make RMP prove their numbers with independent financial analysts and auditors. I'm seeking to know what the Governor's position is, thank you – Pam Anderson

Thank you.

Constituent Services.

—

Gary Widerburg
Commission Secretary
Public Service Commission of Utah
[801-530-6713](tel:801-530-6713)



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

RMP proposed rate change

1 message

Sally Aerts <svensally@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 11:03 AM

To: Utah Public Service Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Dear Utah Public Service Commission,

Attached is a letter regarding Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate change for new residential solar customers.

Thank you for taking public input.

Sincerely,
Sven Solvik and Sally Aerts



Letter to PSC.pdf

53K

December 6, 2016

To: Public Service Commission

From: Sally Aerts and Sven Solvik

RE: Docket Number: 14-035-114; Investigation of the Costs and Benefits of PacificCorp's Net Metering Program

Dear Public Service Commission,

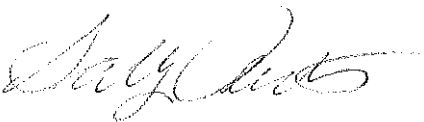
I am writing to voice my opposition to PacificCorp's proposed rate increases for residential solar customers. The rate increases are unfair to the solar industry and potential future solar customers. The proposed rate changes will dramatically reduce the financial return of home solar power systems. All Rocky Mountain Power customers should be treated equitably.

Utah is ranked as one of the best states for rooftop solar production. Solar is clean, renewable energy that supports 92 businesses and over 2600 jobs in Utah. (<http://www.seia.org/state-solar-policy/utah-solar>). For comparison, there were 2350 jobs in coal mining and coal-fired power plants in 2013 (http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Coal_and_jobs_in_the_United_States).

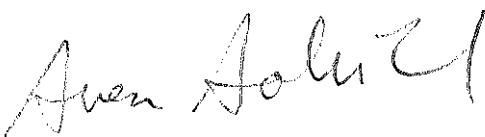
Rocky Mountain Power should be adapting to new technologies and encouraging rooftop solar to reduce its carbon footprint and meet the state's voluntary goal of using renewable energy resources to provide 20 percent of our 2025 electricity use. According to a recently published report, between 2000 and 2015, states that failed to invest in clean energy had higher increases in residential per kilowatt-hour rates than states that were leaders in energy efficiency and renewable energy investment (<https://www.nrdc.org/experts/ralph-cavanagh/clean-energy-investments-pay-big-time-new-study-shows>).

We ask the Public Service Commission to deny Schedule 136 and its related Schedule 5 tariff.

Sincerely,



Sally Aerts



Sven Solvik



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

RMP / Solar

1 message

Chris Kitchen <chris@rxflo.com>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 11:56 AM

To: psc@utah.gov

Please do not allow Rocky Mountain Power to kill residential solar here in Utah as they have already done in Nevada. Solar can help reduce energy costs and clean up our air. I urge you to support free energy and do what is right for Utahns by rejecting Rocky Mountain Power's solar cost increase proposal.

For more information on this issue view the following link:

<http://utsolar.org/help-save-the-future-of-solar-in-utah/>

Thanks,

Chris

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**PublicService Commission** <psc@utah.gov>

End the Monopoly of Rocky Mountain Power!

1 message

Adam Giddings <adamkg412@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 1:04 PM

To: psc@utah.gov

I have worked in the solar industry for a little less than 3 months. I got into solar because for the first time in years solar power has become viable for Utah, but if you allow Rocky Mountain Power to get away with giving solar users extra fees then it will almost completely halt people from switching. Please for the sake of your wallet and your planet vote against this bill!

With Regards (and a healthy dose of desperation),
Adam Giddings



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Rocky Mountain Power net metering comments

1 message

Ken Gardner <ken@gardner-energy.com>
To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 1:25 PM

A few thoughts about RMP and net metering.

1. Recreational cabin users are charged per kwh just like full time residents, but may only occupy their cabins a few week out of the year. There are far more cabins than solar electric systems and it appears that all of us are subsidizing RMP infrastructure for cabins.
2. Irrigators using well pumps to irrigate seasonally. If it rains the irrigation pumps are not used yet RMP must maintain facilities to provide power when needed.
3. Many users have opted to use the RMP "Bluesky" program to purchase renewable energy from wind at a higher price to be green. RMP is building their own solar farms to sell green energy to those interested. Why not let anyone sign up and pay a higher price for solar generated power without building any facilities.
4. Let the State offer "green" license plates with the Utah Clean Energy logo for a higher price with the additional proceeds going to the Office of Utah Clean Energy or RMP to cover their perceived losses.
5. Let home owners turn over their renewable energy credits to RMP as a requirement for net metering as they are of little worth to the home owner.
6. Boulder, Colorado is in the process of taking over their electric utility from Excel Energy because the power company did not want to work with the city on renewable energy options. Something for Salt Lake City to think about.

Ken Gardner



2047 Painter Lane

West Haven, Utah 84401

[801-689-2618](tel:801-689-2618)

gardner-energy.com

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PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Re: Public comment on RMP increase for solar users1 message

James Brown <james@hmpg.net>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 2:31 PM

To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

After further discussion with Rocky Mountain Power, I'd like to add the following to my previous comments.

RMP does, indeed, propose to charge over \$9 (nine DOLLARS) per kWh for peak consumption. I assumed this was simply a typo in their article since it represents a 24,647% (yes, over 24000 percent!) increase for peak usage rates vs. the regular rate. However, after conversations back and forth via email, I've determined that it is not a typo and they plan to charge punitive rates to rooftop solar producers.

Under the proposed rate structure, a consumer could easily amass a bill larger than their pre-solar-install rate even though they are producing at least as much power as they are consuming, on average. Therefore, RMP is both getting paid for the power the solar producer is consuming, PLUS, getting to keep all the excess power they produce.

For example, a rooftop solar owner could easily have a single cloudy day, or a panel failure or other technical difficulty that causes them to not produce power for a few minutes, hours or even a day or two. Under such circumstances, they would be liable for their highest peak usage during that time even though they are producing more power than they are consuming in general.

Let's look at a concrete example. If a rooftop solar customer produces an excess of power each month (so they more than offset their entire consumption) but they use a heat pump heating system that consumes 10 kW of power per hour they would have a minimum bill of \$105 per month (10 kWh peak consumption x \$9.02 = \$90.20 + \$15 connect fee = \$105.20). The net effect is that they consumed 0 power but paid over \$100 for the privilege of having heat at 7pm on a cold winter night.

Add to this the fact that RMP does not currently provide residential customers with peak demand usage statistics. Without this information, a consumer has no way to anticipate what their bill will be if they convert to solar.

Such circumstance will effectively kill the rooftop solar industry in Utah. One has but to look at neighboring states (i.e. Nevada) who have implemented similar punitive rate structures to see how this has impacted renewable energy initiatives in those states.

I again urge the PSC to deny RMPs rate request in total. There is simply no justification for allowing RMP to set punitive rates designed specifically to discourage rooftop solar installations.

Thanks,

- James

On Sat, Dec 3, 2016, at 02:05 PM, James Brown wrote:

Attached are my comments regarding dockets 14-035-114 and 16-035-T14; Rocky Mountain Power's request for a tariff change for rooftop solar. Please enter these comments into the public record for the PSC.

Thanks,

- James

On Fri, Dec 2, 2016, at 07:39 AM, PublicService Commission wrote:

You may comment via email to psc@utah.gov or by regular mail. Our mailing address is:
Public Service Commission of Utah
Heber M. Wells Building

160 East 300 South, 4th Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Please refer to Docket No. 14-035-114 or Docket No. 16-035-T14 on our website to find further information regarding these matters:

<http://psc.utah.gov/utilities/electric/elecindx/2014/14035114indx.html>

<http://psc.utah.gov/utilities/electric/elecindx/2016/16035t14indx.html>

On Thu, Dec 1, 2016 at 9:56 AM, James Brown <james@hmpg.net> wrote:

<https://www.rockymountainpower.net/about/nr/nr2016/proposed-net-metering-changes.html>

In this article Rocky Mountain Power says they are applying for a change in the rates charged to rooftop solar customers. I'd like to comment to the PSC on this matter. How do I go about that?

I looked at the calendar on your website and I don't see anything that looks like it would be this item on your agenda. Can you point me at the correct docket and let me know when this will be considered?

Thanks,

- James

Email had 1 attachment:

- RMP PSC comment.pdf
176k (application/pdf)