



**WESTMINSTER  
COLLEGE**

July 26, 2017  
VIA Electronic Filing

Utah Public Service Commission  
Heber M. Wells Building, 4th Floor  
160 East 300 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Attention: Thad LeVar  
David Clark  
Jordan A. White

Re: Docket No: 14-035-114, Investigation of the Costs and Benefits of PacifiCorp's Net Metering Program

Dear Public Service Commission:

Enclosed please find the executive summary of "A Study of Utah Rooftop Solar Power Owners." This study is the outcome of research done by six students from Westminster College, working under the direction of Professor Julie Stewart. Concerned about the future of solar power in Utah – and in particular, the outcome of a proposal by Rocky Mountain Power to change the rate structure for future rooftop solar customers – Professor Stewart and a group of her students decided to devote a semester to studying the issue.

One initial conclusion to their review of early documents submitted to the Public Service Commission was that the utility's justification for the proposed changes was based on limited data. Accordingly, they decided to seek out additional data about rooftop solar in Utah. The enclosed study aims to provide a broader set of data to contribute to the public conversation – and ultimate PSC decision – on the future of rooftop solar power in Utah. In particular, this study provides data on the history of rooftop solar power adoption in the state, the utility bills of solar power users – both before and after adopting solar – their motivation for adopting solar, and a range of demographic and descriptive data on the community of rooftop solar power owners in Utah.

Ultimately, the findings from this study should lead the PSC commissioners to question Rocky Mountain Power's assumptions about rooftop solar owners and their motivation for the proposed rate changes in Utah.

Sincerely,

Julie Stewart, PhD