



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**Cheryl Shill** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:12 PM

Reply-To: cmerkley58@gmail.com

To: psc@utah.gov

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

The current net metering regime benefits well-connected solar companies while raising energy costs on everyone else. One estimate says current net metering rules could raise our energy costs by \$78 million in the future. These higher costs would especially harm Utahns who earn low-incomes, since a higher percentage of their paychecks go towards energy bills.

If we don't change net metering, skyrocketing energy costs could damage Utah's business-friendly reputation and hurt our state's most vulnerable citizens.

Please eliminate this unfair subsidy to solar companies and change net metering.

Cheryl Shill  
4388 Losee Dr  
WEST VALLEY CITY, UT 84120  
[cmerkley58@gmail.com](mailto:cmerkley58@gmail.com)  
8017807575



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**Dee Len LEN Petersen** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:21 PM

Reply-To: petersendeelen@gmail.com

To: psc@utah.gov

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

The current net metering regime benefits well-connected solar companies while raising energy costs on everyone else. One estimate says current net metering rules could raise our energy costs by \$78 million in the future. These higher costs would especially harm Utahns who earn low-incomes, since a higher percentage of their paychecks go towards energy bills.

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Dee Len LEN Petersen  
450 E 11600 N  
RICHMOND, UT 84333  
[petersendeelen@gmail.com](mailto:petersendeelen@gmail.com)  
4357708205



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**Raymond Seamons** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:45 PM

Reply-To: raymondseamons@yahoo.com

To: psc@utah.gov

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

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Raymond Seamons

LEWISTON, UT 84320

[raymondseamons@yahoo.com](mailto:raymondseamons@yahoo.com)

4352581790



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**Raymond Seamons** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:46 PM

Reply-To: raymondseamons@yahoo.com

To: psc@utah.gov

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

The current net metering regime benefits well-connected solar companies while raising energy costs on everyone else. One estimate says current net metering rules could raise our energy costs by \$78 million in the future. These higher costs would especially harm Utahns who earn low-incomes, since a higher percentage of their paychecks go towards energy bills.

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LEWISTON, UT 84320

[raymondseamons@yahoo.com](mailto:raymondseamons@yahoo.com)

4352581790



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

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**Jordan White** <jordanwhite@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:54 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Cheryl Shill <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:12 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: <jordanwhite@utah.gov>

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[cmerkley58@gmail.com](mailto:cmerkley58@gmail.com)  
8017807575



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**David Clark** <drexclark@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 10:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Raymond Seamons** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:46 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [drexclark@utah.gov](mailto:drexclark@utah.gov)

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LEWISTON, UT 84320  
[raymondseamons@yahoo.com](mailto:raymondseamons@yahoo.com)  
4352581790



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

---

**David Clark** <drexclark@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 10:40 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dee Len LEN Petersen** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:21 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [drexclark@utah.gov](mailto:drexclark@utah.gov)

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RICHMOND, UT 84333  
[petersendeelen@gmail.com](mailto:petersendeelen@gmail.com)  
4357708205



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

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**David Clark** <drexclark@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 10:40 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cheryl Shill** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:12 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [drexclark@utah.gov](mailto:drexclark@utah.gov)

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[cmerkley58@gmail.com](mailto:cmerkley58@gmail.com)  
8017807575





PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

---

## End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**Janet Hayman** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>

Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 8:28 PM

Reply-To: haymanjanet9@gmail.com

To: psc@utah.gov

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

The current net metering regime benefits well-connected solar companies while raising energy costs on everyone else. One estimate says current net metering rules could raise our energy costs by \$78 million in the future. These higher costs would especially harm Utahns who earn low-incomes, since a higher percentage of their paychecks go towards energy bills.

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Janet Hayman

BRIGHAM CITY, UT 84302

[haymanjanet9@gmail.com](mailto:haymanjanet9@gmail.com)



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

---

**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

---

**Jordan White** <jordanwhite@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 9:48 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Janet Hayman <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 8:28 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: <jordanwhite@utah.gov>

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

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Please eliminate this unfair subsidy to solar companies and change net metering.

Janet Hayman

BRIGHAM CITY, UT 84302  
[haymanjanet9@gmail.com](mailto:haymanjanet9@gmail.com)



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

---

**David Clark** <drexclark@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 11:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Janet Hayman** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 8:28 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [drexclark@utah.gov](mailto:drexclark@utah.gov)

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

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Janet Hayman

BRIGHAM CITY, UT 84302  
[haymanjanet9@gmail.com](mailto:haymanjanet9@gmail.com)



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**Edward WHITMORE Sullivan** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>

Sun, Sep 3, 2017 at 4:31 PM

Reply-To: edsul37@gmail.com

To: psc@utah.gov

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

The current net metering regime benefits well-connected solar companies while raising energy costs on everyone else. One estimate says current net metering rules could raise our energy costs by \$78 million in the future. These higher costs would especially harm Utahns who earn low-incomes, since a higher percentage of their paychecks go towards energy bills.

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Edward WHITMORE Sullivan  
136 JUDD LN  
HURRICANE, UT 84737  
[edsul37@gmail.com](mailto:edsul37@gmail.com)  
[9288971347](tel:9288971347)



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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**Edward WHITMORE Sullivan** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>

Sun, Sep 3, 2017 at 4:31 PM

Reply-To: edsul37@gmail.com

To: psc@utah.gov

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136 JUDD LN  
HURRICANE, UT 84737  
[edsul37@gmail.com](mailto:edsul37@gmail.com)  
[9288971347](tel:9288971347)



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

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**Jordan White** <jordanwhite@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Sun, Sep 3, 2017 at 6:01 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Edward WHITMORE Sullivan <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Sun, Sep 3, 2017 at 4:31 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: <jordanwhite@utah.gov>

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

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136 JUDD LN  
HURRICANE, UT 84737  
[edsul37@gmail.com](mailto:edsul37@gmail.com)  
9288971347



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

---

**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

---

**David Clark** <drexclark@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Mon, Sep 4, 2017 at 9:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Edward WHITMORE Sullivan** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Sun, Sep 3, 2017 at 4:31 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [drexclark@utah.gov](mailto:drexclark@utah.gov)

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HURRICANE, UT 84737  
[edsul37@gmail.com](mailto:edsul37@gmail.com)  
9288971347



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

---

**David Clark** <drexclark@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 8:14 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Janet Hayman** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 8:28 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [drexclark@utah.gov](mailto:drexclark@utah.gov)

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Janet Hayman

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[haymanjanet9@gmail.com](mailto:haymanjanet9@gmail.com)





PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

---

## Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

---

**Thad Levar** <tleva@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cheryl Shill** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:12 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: tleva@utah.gov

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

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Cheryl Shill  
4388 Losee Dr  
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[cmerkley58@gmail.com](mailto:cmerkley58@gmail.com)  
8017807575



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

---

**Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering**

1 message

---

**Thad Levar** <tleva@utah.gov>  
To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dee Len LEN Petersen** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:21 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [tleva@utah.gov](mailto:tleva@utah.gov)

I respectfully ask that you change Utah's net metering rules and end giveaways to solar companies.

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4357708205



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## Fwd: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering

1 message

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To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Raymond Seamons** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 8:45 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [tleva@utah.gov](mailto:tleva@utah.gov)

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4352581790



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To: PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

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Date: Sun, Sep 3, 2017 at 4:31 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [tleva@utah.gov](mailto:tleva@utah.gov)

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From: **Janet Hayman** <AFP@ivolunteers.com>  
Date: Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 8:28 PM  
Subject: End Handouts for Solar – Change Net Metering  
To: [tleva@utah.gov](mailto:tleva@utah.gov)

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BRIGHAM CITY, UT 84302  
[haymanjanet9@gmail.com](mailto:haymanjanet9@gmail.com)



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## Solar and RMP

1 message

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Travis Tabbal <travis@tabbal.net>

Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:29 PM

To: psc@utah.gov

Please have a look through this article and the linked study.

<http://www.energyandpolicy.org/solar-cost-shift-negligible-lbnl-report/>

It clearly shows that "cost shifting" is a myth.

Highlight:

"In other words, when distributed solar reaches 10% of electricity sales, the impacts would be either a cost **or a benefit** of around half a cent/kWh (\$0.005/kWh). The figure below is from the LBNL report and it highlights the three states that it estimates will see this 10% penetration level by 2030 (Arizona, New Mexico, and Connecticut)."



Watchdog exposing the attacks on renewable energy and countering misinformation by fossil fuel interests

Real Meaning | Solar

## Report: Natural Gas Prices and Utility Infrastructure Spending Have High Impact on Bills; Solar Negligible

 Matt Kasper

In the utility industry's effort to slow the growth of rooftop solar across the country, electric companies and their trade association, Edison Electric Institute (EEI), have based their campaign on the notion that rooftop solar customers cause a cost-shift to non-rooftop solar customers.

EEI's Executive Vice President David Owens offers the case. In 2013, Owens said:

"It's not about lost revenue . . . We want to make sure the grid is maintained, that it can be enhanced, and that cost shifting does not occur." Also in 2013, in response to an EEI-paid television advertising in Arizona critical of rooftop solar in which a woman tells the viewer, "I shouldn't have to pay for my neighbor's solar," Owens said the ad was about "let's make sure we don't shift the costs."

Owens continued the argument in an interview with the *Washington Post* in 2015, when he said, "It's not about profits; it's about protecting customers . . . There are unreasonable cost shifts that do occur [with solar]. There is a grid that everyone relies on, and you have to pay for that grid and pay for that infrastructure." In February 2016, RTO Insider reported that Owens presented the cost shift argument to Wall Street analysts when he made the industry's case for utility stocks. He further said that utilities are addressing the cost-shift by attempting to increase fixed charges and implement

demand charges.

Many reports have rebutted the industry's cost-shift talking point; one from the Environment America Research & Policy Center analyzed 16 studies and concluded that solar customers do not have a negative effect on non-solar customers. Now, a new report from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), a Department of Energy science lab managed by the University of California, offers the latest evidence that the utilities' cost shift argument is, for the most part, a self-serving myth.

The report, "Putting the Potential Rate Impacts of Distributed Solar into Context," set out to find the effect of distributed solar on electricity prices. The results?

The report found that "for the vast majority of states and utilities, the effects of distributed solar on retail electricity prices will likely **remain negligible for the foreseeable future.**" [emphasis added] Specifically, LBNL finds that distributed solar "likely entails no more than a 0.03 cent/kWh long-run increase in U.S. average retail electricity prices, and far smaller than that for most utilities."

The report further states that for utilities with high solar penetration rates on the order of 10% of electricity sales (all in Hawaii), along with the states set to reach this level by 2030, distributed solar yields between a 5% decrease and a 5% increase in retail electricity prices, assuming distributed solar customers are receiving full net metering volumetric rates (Hawaii regulators have already ended the state's net metering policy and have replaced it with options that credit customers at lower rates).

**Table 1. Top-ten utilities for net-metered PV penetration, as of year-end 2015**

Penetration among <u>all</u> customers			Penetration among <u>residential</u> customers only				
Utility	State	% of Sales	Utility	State	% of Sales		
Hawaii Electric Light	HI	12.4%	Maui Electric	HI	18.0%		
Maui Electric	HI	12.1%	Hawaii Electric Light	HI	16.9%		
Hawaiian Electric	HI	8.1%	Hawaiian Electric	HI	16.8%		
Kauai Island Utility Cooperative	HI	7.9%	Kauai Island Utility Cooperative	HI	10.5%		
Otero County Electric Cooperative	NM	5.6%	San Diego Gas & Electric	CA	7.7%		
San Diego Gas & Electric	CA	5.5%	City of Moreno Valley	CA	6.5%		
Washington Electric Cooperative	VT	5.3%	Pacific Gas & Electric	CA	5.3%		
Town of Hardwick	VT	5.3%	Otero County Electric Cooperative	NM	5.2%		
Trico Electric Cooperative	AZ	4.1%	Groton Dept. of Utilities	CT	4.5%		
Pacific Gas & Electric	CA	3.6%	Southern California Edison	CA	3.9%		
		<b>Total U.S.</b>	<b>0.4%</b>			<b>Total U.S.</b>	<b>0.6%</b>

Notes: Based on data for NEM PV capacity and retail electricity sales reported through form EIA 861 (EIA 2016g). Net-metered PV generation is estimated using the PVWatts software with the program's default assumptions (NREL 2016).

From LBNL report

In other words, when distributed solar reaches 10% of electricity sales, the impacts would be either a cost or a benefit of around half a cent/kWh (\$0.005/kWh). The figure below is from the LBNL





— Henry Hub Natural Gas Spot Price

EIA

If regulators and utilities wanted to protect customers from cost impacts, the report recommends limiting the exposure of natural gas by diversifying fuel sources used for electricity generation as one option. Utilities are doing the exact opposite, as many are in the thick of a rush to build natural gas infrastructure. Sierra Club recently released a report that found there is more than 31 GW of gas capacity under construction and 111 GW of proposed gas plants, all of which could result in the construction of more than 200 new natural gas power plants across the country. EIA estimates that the U.S. added 24 GW of new generating capacity last year.

But it is capital expenditures in the electric utility industry that have the largest impact on electricity prices. LBNL says that the cost to customers of anticipated utility capital expenditures is between 1.6 – 3.6 cents/kWh, and unlike solar, there is no scenario where this results in lower power prices for all customers.

**Table 3. Estimated impact of future capital expenditures on retail electricity prices**

	Low	High
Annual CapEx through 2030 (\$2015)	\$100 billion/yr (constant)	6% real annual growth, from \$100 billion in 2015
Weighted-average cost of capital (WACC)	6%	9%
Impact on average retail electricity prices in 2030 (\$2015)	1.6 cents/kWh	3.6 cents/kWh

From LBNL report

For context, according to EEI, “the \$103.3 billion spent in 2015 is 157% greater than the \$40.2 billion invested during the 12-month period that ended September 30, 2004.”



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It makes sense that utilities don't want to talk about price impacts that result from building more infrastructure: that's how they make a profit. They're more than happy, however, to exaggerate (or invent, in many cases) a supposed solar cost shift if it provides them with a rationale for fighting rooftop solar-enabling policies. That's much better public relations than acknowledging that rooftop solar provides a threat to the classical monopoly utility business model.

In fact, David Owens conceded utilities' real motives during a private meeting with utility company CEOs almost five years ago. During a discussion on the rise of distributed generation and net metering, Owens delivered a slide, referring to distributed solar growth, that read, "How do you grow earnings in this environment?" The response from the industry has been either working with groups to repeal net metering laws or by requesting higher fixed and demand charges. This is exactly what has happened in the years since.

Most public utility commissions did not buy the utilities' flawed arguments. According to NC Clean Energy Technology Center's 50 States of Solar Report 2016 Review, "Forty-six utilities asked for residential fixed-charges increases of 10% last year." The utilities were granted only partial or no increases in 79% of the cases, according to the report, and fewer utilities proposed demand charges in 2016. "Those that did found an unreceptive audience among regulators. Not a single commission approved such a request."

However, utilities are continuing their efforts in 2017. In Indiana, for example, a utility-backed bill is making its way through the state senate that would end net metering by 2027 at the latest, or more likely much earlier when net-metered systems hit 1% of utility demand. In the meantime, the bill would not credit rooftop solar customers at the full retail rate.

According to the National Institute of Money in State Politics, Indiana electric utility companies, and their trade association, Indiana Energy Association, have contributed more than \$700,000 to candidates for state races and PACs over the past three election cycles; and Indiana Lobby Registration Commission data reveals that these same companies spent \$1.045 million on lobbyists over the past two years.

Solar net metering is growing in Indiana, but it currently makes up one-tenth of one percent of demand, providing a prime example, according to the LBNL study, of a place where any kind of cost shift is a pure myth, but where cutting net metering would surely stunt solar's nascent growth.

A hearing on the bill is set for February 9. The argument utility companies are using to advance the bill? Cost-shift.

**Posted in:** Net Metering, Solar

**Tagged in:** Edison Electric Institute, Indiana Energy Association, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



Posted by Matt Kasper

Matt Kasper is the Research Director at the Energy & Policy Institute. He focuses on defending policies that further the development of clean energy sources. He also frequently focuses on the companies and their front groups that obstruct policy solutions to global warming. His work has appeared in The Guardian, the Huffington Post, the Washington Post, and other outlets.

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Operating Department Net Operating Income	\$ 49,867,000
Operating Department Rate Base	\$ 4,674,892,000
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