



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Docket No: 17-035-61

1 message

Eleanor Thompson <eleanor@eleanorthompson.com>
To: PSC UT <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Jun 9, 2020 at 5:53 PM

Dear Members of the Utah Public Service Commission;

Many people who write to you about the current request by RMP to lower their net metering rate on PV Residential Solar here in Utah from what it is now @ 9.2 cents/ kWh to 1.5cents / kWh.... will remind you that even Dr. Fauci does not expect the COVID19 pandemic to end any time soon:

Fauci Warns that the Coronavirus Pandemic is Far From Over

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/09/health/fauci-vaccines-coronavirus.html?campaign_id=57&emc=edit_ne_20200609&instance_id=19247&nl=evening-briefing®i_id=59888780&segment_id=30494&te=1&user_id=b33658f07f115d39fb83ff6c96bb22af&fbclid=IwAR0jrblQlpXxFYZx51TdXML64VdleI8KSA6TEYVtBhUMleU8cv3oUNniMV
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Today the SL TRIB reports that:

"Utah's rate of positive tests for the coronavirus is **rising faster than almost all other states**, according to data collected by Johns Hopkins..."

<https://www.sltrib.com/news/2020/06/09/utah-marks-another-day/>

Some other journals report that the impact of COVID19 on Clean Energy Jobs nationwide is horrendous already:

"Since the pandemic hit, **the country has lost 594,300 clean energy jobs**, according to a **report** issued last week by BW Research Partnership, the same firm that did the data analysis for the E2 report..."

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/20052020/inside-clean-energy-jobs-coronavirus-wind-electric-vehicles-energy>

Financial reporters are reminding us that a "recovered" stock market does not mean we will avoid a national recession:

Don't think a great stock market means we've got a great economy

<https://tinyurl.com/y9tkyz9a>

Last time Rocky Mountain Power was allowed, in 2017, to lower their Net Metering Rate to 9.35cents / kWh, PV Residential Solar installs in 2018 fell off by 50%:

Utah's rooftop solar market on the skids with net metering change

As Utah's net metering market declines, it is unclear if a successor program is picking up the slack.

AUGUST 23, 2018

<https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2018/08/23/utah-rooftop-solar-market-on-the-skids-with-net-metering-change/>

By now, everyone who has a job in the Utah Solar Sector.....knows that RMP / PacifiCorp owner Warren Buffett / BHE regards an independent PV Solar sector owned by the homeowners as an inconvenience he has always wanted to destroy:

Rocky Mountain Power, a Warren Buffett-owned utility, is again seeking to kill off residential solar power

Rocky Mountain Power has proposed an almost 80 percent cut to the rate paid to net metered solar electricity, dropping it from the current 9.2¢/kWh to a rough average of about 2.0¢/kWh.

FEBRUARY 19, 2020

<https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2020/02/19/warren-buffett-again-seeking-to-kill-off-residential-solar-power/>

If the Utah Public Service Commission allows RMP to lower its current Net Metering Rate to what they have asked for @ 1.5 cents /kWh on 1.1.2021, the Utah Solar Residential Sector will be destroyed, many people who work in this sector will lose their jobs, Utah COVID19 unemployment rate will grow, many Solar Installation Companies will leave Utah for true solar states like Nevada, California, Arizona and Texas.

I hope you are considering all of this and more as you make your decision on Docket No: 17-035-61. Utah prides itself in creating jobs and making a better economy than the rest of the USA, as per what Utah's economy was before COVID19. If you want to save jobs in the Utah Residential Solar Sector in spite of COVID19, keep the current RMP net metering rate just as it is.

Kind regards,

Eleanor

ELEANOR THOMPSON
Solar Energy Sales Consultant

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PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Docket No: 17-035-61

1 message

Iain Hueton <ihueton@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: Iain Hueton <ihueton@yahoo.com>
To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov>

Tue, Jun 9, 2020 at 10:34 PM

Dear PSC

regarding Docket #17-035-61: it is vital that you require Rocky Mountain Power to continue purchasing "surplus" power from the owners of solar panels at \$0.094 / kwh. Of course RMP is against this because they are ONLY looking out for their bottom line, and not considering the larger benefits to the development of solar power and other renewable energy sources. Ask yourself this question: given the poor air quality in the Salt Lake Valley, there's no way you / we will be approving construction of a new coal-fired power plant to serve local power needs. Given recent revelations about the excessive methane / VOC emissions associated with the distribution of natural gas "peaker" plants, these plants are nowhere near as "clean" as the power industry claims. You need to be facilitating resilience and local circuit stability by encouraging the use of residential and large-scale commercial solar power (combined with storage) in areas close to where there is demand for power. This is by far the most cost-effective way to serve our future power needs while controlling costs and protecting the environment.

The solar / storage power solution still requires regulatory support to ensure more widespread implementation. The best way to do this is to maintain the \$0.094/kwh payment to solar users. Our power grid needs this. Our planet's climate needs this. Our solar pioneers require this. Please do the right thing by requiring RMP to support solar power.

Iain Hueton

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PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Reference Docket 17-035-61

1 message

Robbie White <6679moose@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 8:39 AM

To: psc@utah.gov

To whom it may concern,

We are writing about the Rocky Mountain power VS. solar power in Utah. We purchased a solar system about two years ago and it cost us a significant amount of money. Thousands of dollars. The way Rocky Mountain power reimburses us is already less than what they charge their customers. If anything they should pay us what they charge their customers. They also charge us monthly just to have a meter which is probably inflated. Now they want to take most of the rest of the amount of our power generation. We wanted to contribute to the green energy program supported by the State of Utah when we purchased our solar system. We even received a credit from the state of Utah for tax purposes. Thank you for that by the way. Please do not allow Rocky Mountain power to remove the benefit to Utah of all the people who have sacrificed to install green energy systems. The return on investment for these systems at the current cost structure are many years in the future. I estimate it will take approximately 12 years for us to just break even on the cost of the installation. If Rocky Mountain Power gets its way there will be no more solar panels installed in Utah. This will increase green house gases causing more air pollution. RMP doesn't even pay for the extra power they get from us at the end of March each year. They just take it at no cost to them. I think that program is wrong too. They should have to pay for that power.

Also, why did I have to hear about this proposal from my neighbor? I have heard nothing about this until he mentioned it to me. It seems like this is silently happening behind the backs of all the people with solar power systems.

Please DO NOT let Rocky Mountain Power strong arm us and destroy our investment in green energy! We've made a very expensive investment for ourselves, for Utah, and for our environment.

Sincerely,
Robbie White
6679 Durfee Creek Rd.
Liberty, Utah 84310



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

docket #17-035-61

1 message

Paul Ferguson <paulcferg@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 10:16 AM

To: psc@utah.gov

I find Rocky Mountain Power's plan to be **outrageous**. It would allow them to essentially **steal** the power that I am generating, paying a tenth of what it is worth. I am not a rich person, but I have invested \$60,000 dollars for two sets of rooftop panels. If this docket is approved, those panels will become nearly worthless. Why? Because politicians choose to go to bed with big business instead of representing their constituents. Utah has a history of protecting it's people, but also an alarming trend in recent years to sell us out. Please do the right thing.

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PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

my personal comments regarding Docket #17-035-61 / Please encourage RMP to support the solar industry and not rip it apart.

1 message

Blake Gailey <Blake.Gailey@sunpower.com>
To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov>

Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 10:17 AM

Fred (& PSC decision makers),

Thank you for your call this morning as I called to ask how my voice could be heard working in the solar industry here in Utah. regarding Docket #17-035-61: I have worked in the solar industry for over 10 years. am also a part of the National Association of Realtors Sustainability Advisory Group. It is my passion and livelihood. My true passion around sustainability is what I call connecting the dots between solar, real estate, mortgage and appraisal. In fact, I recently completed my master's degree and wrote my thesis/capstone on this very topic.

If the net metering rates are reduced it will significantly slow progress with homeowners adding renewable energy. I have found as a personal example as homeowners add solar into their mortgages when purchasing / selling their home they are able to save by avoiding traditional solar loan finance fees and solar becomes an economical and viable option. By proceeding in favor of RMP this progress, my work and that of many others will be negatively affected.

These comments are my own personal viewpoint. I understand regulation is need and by maintaining the \$0.094/kwh payment to solar users we can achieve this. It is needed for the grid, and especially for our next generation. Please encourage RMP to support the solar industry and not rip it apart.

Blake

Blake Gailey | Sr Manager Business Developmentmobile (801) 953 -6590| blake.gailey@sunpower.com**SUNPOWER**[®]



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Response to Docket #17-035-61

1 message

Benjamin Wade <benwade21@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 11:21 AM

To: psc@utah.gov

In response to #17-035-61

This feels like robbery. RMP proposing a 1.5 cent /kWH Net Metering Rate is a bully tactic and a direct attack on Renewables and a free/clean market. Solar costs have been drastically declining YOY. The technology is proven. A 1.5 cent /kWH proposal is anti-American and big corporate greed at its finest.

There needs to be a lot more dialogue and transparency in this process.



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Docket NO 17-035-61

1 message

Westley Hatch <whatch@aspenhills-mtg.com>
To: psc@utah.gov

Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 4:00 PM

To Whom in May Concern:

I am sending you this email because of the increasing of the export credit of the power I produce from my solar system from 9.4 cents / kwh for solar electricity sold back to RMP. Reference Docket #17-034-61

Our federal & State government have supported solar power projects as well as RMP. RMP not only offered incentives to offset the cost of installation cost but they provided a way for me to send my power to RMP and earn a credit for power not used. The state and Federal governments are also offering a credit to help cover the installation cost.

These incentives resulted in customers of RMP making decisions to install solar to help save money in utility bills and other benefits of solar.

The benefits of solar power generation to the environment are well known so I am not going to repeat them. There are neighboring states that establish that the proposed move will do more harm than good. The outcome is less solar generation and more income for a regulated utility with potentially negative impact to the environment.

If recent information is correct on the value of solar generation those customer making the move to install solar should be receiving an incentive

I oppose the proposed changes.

Thanks,

Westley



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Docket #17-035-61

1 message

Jeramie Rose <rose@thesunlife.com>
To: psc@utah.gov

Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 4:43 PM

I'm fully opposed to the Docket #17-035-61...

Best Regards,
Jeramie Rose