

**From:** Jim Nourse

**Sent:** Friday, August 16, 2024 3:04 PM

**To:** PUC: Clerks Office <ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov>

**Subject:** Net Metering Settlement

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To: NH Public Utilities Commission

Re: Net Metering

Date: August 16, 2024

As a NH resident who has spent the capital to install both rooftop solar and a solar tracker, I encourage the PUC to adopt the proposed settlement in Docket 22-060, which focuses on the future of net energy metering (NEM). Net metering has allowed me to slowly recoup some of the money I spent on these systems.

As Chair of the Lyme Energy Committee, I encourage the PUC to adopt this settlement. In March 2020, the town of Lyme voted to adopt a goal of supplying 100% of our electricity from clean renewable energy sources. The Energy Committee launched a Solarize Lyme campaign that saw 55 residents add solar systems to their home infrastructure. There are multiple reasons to support this program as we move NH to a carbon-free economy in the face of the science of climate change.

(1) NEM facilitates the adoption of clean energy sources, contributing to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, which is vital for mitigating climate change.

(2) NEM ensures that consumers have the right to generate some or all of their own electricity and be fairly compensated for excess energy they feed into the grid. This promotes energy market competition and customer choice. In a state whose motto includes the words “live free”, this choice seems like a no-brainer.

(3) NEM allows consumers to offset their energy consumption costs by generating their own renewable energy. Excess energy produced can be

credited against future bills, leading to significant savings. This leads to residents being more conscious of how they use energy, encouraging things like “Time of Use” rates. This ultimately leads to a decreased need to equip the grid to provide maximum electricity at small peak periods.

(4) NEM provides customers with long-term cost predictability by allowing them to generate their own power. This stability in energy costs can help households and businesses budget more effectively.

(5) Rooftop solar energy represents one of the few ways for residents to take control of their energy bill and insulate themselves from volatile swings in global energy markets.

(6) NEM encourages the efficient utilization of renewable energy resources, reducing transmission losses and grid congestion.

(7) The growth of the renewable energy sector driven by NEM leads to the creation of good-paying high-skill jobs in manufacturing, installation, and maintenance of renewable energy systems.

(8) NEM encourages distributed energy generation, reducing strain on centralized power plants and enhancing grid resilience, especially during peak demand periods and extreme weather events.

(9) Small scale solar has the smallest possible land use impact of any source of energy. It can be built quickly, and is difficult to block with NIMBY opposition.

Sincerely,

Jim Nourse

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*I arise in the morning torn between a desire to save the world and a desire to savor the world. This makes it hard to plan the day.*

~ E.B. White

