

**From:** Ann Butler

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024 12:48 PM

**To:** Governor Sununu <governorsununu@nh.gov>; PUC: Clerks Office <clerksoffice@puc.nh.gov>; Chicoine, Jared <jared.s.chicoine@energy.nh.gov>; EllmsJr, Christopher J <Christopher.j.ellmsjr@energy.nh.gov>

**Subject:** PUC Settlement Agreement

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Governor Sununu,

(cc: NH-PUC, NH-DOE)

I recently learned that the NH Public Utilities Commission is about to release an Order concerning PUC Docket DE 22-060 on Changes to the Current Net Metering Tariff Structure. I understand a Settlement Agreement has been filed by the three investor-owned electric utilities, Clean Energy NH, Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA), and the NH Hydro Association.

**I urge the PUC to accept this Settlement Agreement.**

**I am a member of the Meredith Energy Committee and recently the town entered into a power purchase agreement and has had 4 solar installations producing enough power to offset 1/3 of the municipal electrical needs. Without net metering this project would not be possible. Home owners, businesses and towns that invest in solar directly use the solar these investments produced and also send power back to the grid that is used by neighboring homes and businesses.**

**This back-fed power is then billed to the neighboring customers by the utilities and the solar producers are compensated for this production and the utilities make a profit as well.**

**The settlement agreement which appears to have been approved by every stakeholder from the utilities to the NH Consumer Advocate keeps this system in place. It is a fair agreement that does not penalize customers who do not have solar and fairly compensate those who have invested in producing solar electricity.**

**Having the ability to locally produce power and distribute it to our neighbors seems like something the "Live Free or Die" motto was meant to describe.**

**Finally, I frankly do not understand why the PUC is reluctant to adopt the settlement agreement given the diverse parties who have agreed to it.**

**One only has to look at California and what has happened since they effectively killed net metering with a system that does not fairly compensate the homeowners, businesses and municipalities that have invested in solar. Do we really want to follow in California's footsteps?**

**I am copying the PUC Clerk on this email so that my concern and support for the Settlement Agreement will be entered into the docket.**

**Sincerely,**

**Ann Butler**

**Meredith**