

From: Susan Smith

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 1:21 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: Concerned about the future of net metering in NH (PUC Docket DE 22-060)

EXTERNAL: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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. Net energy metering has been helping local people go solar since 1998, and supports locally generated small-scale solar power. Overwhelmingly, new generation sources that have been built over the last decade have been built because of net metering. **Without it, New Hampshire cannot build the resources needed to electrify the economy.**

Net metering is so important for the following reasons:

- it 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.
- it 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.
- net metering 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.
- 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.
- it encourages the efficient utilization of renewable energy resources, reducing transmission losses and grid congestion.
- 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.

- it encourages distributed energy generation, reducing strain on centralized power plants and enhancing grid resilience, especially during peak demand periods and extreme weather events.
- 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.
- it facilitates the adoption of clean energy sources, contributing to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, which is vital for mitigating climate change.

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,

Susan Smith
Dover