

March 30, 2017

Debra Howland, Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: In Support of Energy Future Coalition's Net Metering Proposal in DE 16-576

Dear Executive Director Howland:

The Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC) writes to express its strong support of the Energy Future Coalition's (EFC) net metering proposal in Commission docket DE 16-576. As the proceeding's hearings conclude this week, we urge the Commission to rule favorably for EFC and ensure that a sustainable net metering future is preserved for the residents and businesses of New Hampshire. The dramatic cuts to net metering rates contemplated by the utilities' competing proposal would sharply diverge from this future and instead set New Hampshire back. Despite the danger posed by the competing proposal, we are confident that the PUC will arrive at a determination that allows the benefits of net metering to continue flowing to all customers for years to come.

NECEC is the lead voice for hundreds of clean energy companies across the Northeast. NECEC's mission is to create a world-class clean energy hub in the Northeast delivering global impact with economic, energy and environmental solutions. NECEC is the only organization in the Northeast that covers all of the clean energy market segments, representing the business perspectives of investors and clean energy companies across every stage of development. NECEC members span the broad spectrum of the clean energy industry, including energy efficiency, demand response, wind, solar, combined heat and power, energy storage, fuel cells, and advanced and "smart" technologies. Many of our members are operating and investing in New Hampshire, and many more are interested in doing so in the future.

Based on the depth and breadth of evidence in this proceeding, the record substantiates our belief that net metering brings *net benefits* to the customers and ratepayers of New Hampshire. Not only does net metering lower energy costs and reduce emissions, but the policy provides the underpinning from New Hampshire's homegrown solar industry, which boasted nearly 2,000 jobs in 2016 thanks to a 62% solar job growth rate.¹ The reforms put forward by EFC will preserve these benefits by setting a course to rates that will fairly compensate solar for the value it provides to the grid.

Thank you for your consideration. NECEC and our members appreciate the PUC's hard work.

Sincerely,



Peter Rothstein
President



Janet Gail Besser
Executive Vice President

cc: Kate Epsen, NHSEA

¹ <http://www.thesolarfoundation.org/solar-jobs-census/factsheet-2016-NH/>.