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Memorandum
From the office of
Chairman Doug Little
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. WASHINGTON
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
(602) 542-0745

TO: Docket Control
DATE: December 22, 2016
FROM: Chairman Doug Little's Office
SUBJECT: E-00000Q-16-0289

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
DEC 22 2016

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Chairman Little's office received 1 email referencing the above docket number. The correspondence can be viewed in Docket, or online via the eDocket link.

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Andrea Gaston

From: jedtaz <jedtaz@cox.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 10:53 AM
To: Tobin-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web; Stump-Web; RBurns-Web
Subject: Reasons why Arizona should eliminate the Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff
E-00000Q-16-0289

Gentlemen:

I urge you to reconsider and repeal the Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff (REST). While the ACC has a legitimate role in setting electric rates, it should not mandate how that electricity is produced.

The original rationale for going to renewable energy was the fear that we would be soon running out of fossil fuels and that carbon dioxide emissions would produce dangerous global warming. Neither concern is supported by facts.

Reasons why Arizona should eliminate the Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff:

- 1. Electricity generated from renewable sources is much more expensive than conventional generation.** That expense is reflected in higher electricity bills.
- 2. Renewable energy sources such as wind and solar are intermittent, unpredictable, and unreliable.** Increased generation from unreliable sources will make our electric grid more susceptible to blackouts and brownouts. Solar and wind generation typically produces at only about 20 percent of rated generation capacity.
- 3. Because generation from renewable energy sources is intermittent and unpredictable, these sources require backup generation which is usually by burning fossil fuels.** Because the time and duration for backup generation need is unpredictable, the fossil-fuel fired backup generators cannot be run efficiently. Experience in Europe shows that backup generators actually use more fuel and produce more carbon dioxide emissions and pollutants such as sulfur dioxide than they normally would if they were run efficiently for primary generation.
- 4. Use of renewable energy will not impact climate.** By using data from the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, NOAA, and the IPCC, it is possible to estimate the temperature impact of carbon dioxide emissions. For instance, if we stopped all U.S. carbon dioxide emissions

it could theoretically prevent a temperature rise of 0.08°C by 2050. If Arizona stopped all carbon dioxide emissions it could theoretically prevent a temperature rise of 0.0015°C by 2050. Will you notice? (Data from Science & Public Policy Institute report “Analysis of US and State-by-State Carbon Dioxide Emissions & Potential ‘Savings’ in Future Global Temperature & Global Sea Level Rise” http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/images/stories/papers/originals/state_by_state.pdf)

Besides, the increasing emissions from other countries such as China will completely wipe out any imagined savings from REST.

5. Finally, renewable energy is not as green as advertized.

For example, many PV solar panels rely on polysilicon being manufactured in large quantities and at high quality. A byproduct of polysilicon production is silicon tetrachloride, a highly toxic substance that poses a major environmental hazard. Wherever silicon tetrachloride is dumped, the land becomes totally infertile. A major environmental cost of photovoltaic solar energy is toxic chemical pollution (arsenic, gallium, and cadmium) and energy consumption associated with the large-scale manufacture of photovoltaic panels.

A Cato report found that the materials required for thermal-solar projects were 1,000 times greater than for a similarly sized fossil-fuel facility, creating substantial incremental energy consumption and industrial pollution. See report: <http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa-280.html>

Also wind turbines chop up birds and bats. The new concentrating solar facility in Ivanpah, California is literally frying birds.

6. In the last few years, the fracking technique has opened up abundant new resources of natural gas and petroleum, so we will not be dependent on foreign sources.

For instance, see this one new discovery: <https://wattsupwiththat.com/2016/11/16/peak-oil-indefinitely-postponed/>

On my blog, I have written extensively on matters of climate change and energy. Here is a sampling:

Evidence that CO₂ emissions do not intensify the greenhouse effect

<http://wryheat.wordpress.com/2014/11/19/evidence-that-co2-emissions-do-not-intensify-the-greenhouse-effect/>

Renewable energy causes electricity cost to skyrocket

The U.S. Energy Information Administration has found that as a country increases the amount of electricity generated by renewal sources, as the European Union has been doing, costs per kwh rise from about 12 cents per kwh to 32 cents per kwh.

<https://wryheat.wordpress.com/2015/08/06/renewable-energy-causes-electricity-cost-to-skyrocket/>

Top Google Engineers Say Renewable Energy “Simply won’t work”

<http://wryheat.wordpress.com/2014/11/27/top-google-engineers-say-renewable-energy-simply-wont-work/>

For an overview of climate change read my post:

<https://wryheat.files.wordpress.com/2015/10/climate-change-in-perspective-2015.pdf>

Please repeal REST and let market demand determine how electricity is produced.

Jonathan DuHamel

Tucson, AZ

jedtaz@cox.net

520 743-9415