Dear Mr. Bunting:

The allegation made below by a Solar City employee – namely that the Arizona Corporation Commissioners “met behind closed doors” with APS in a coordinated effort to change the “buy back” or avoided cost rate solar customers like you receive at the end of the year -- is false.

In this case, APS filed its application to change the avoided cost rate as it was permitted to do pursuant to a 2010 ACC decision – a decision, I should mention, that was made prior to my election to the ACC. It is my understanding that the 2010 decision permits APS to adjust the avoided cost or “buy back” rate annually based on a formula approved in that decision.

That said, the Commission’s recent vote was simply accepting the true up cost figure submitted by APS pursuant to that decision. I assure you that vote was made at a properly noticed open meeting, as evidenced by the video of the meeting on June 11, 2013 (Agenda Item #15): http://azcc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=1030&meta_id=8595. Any discussion involving a quorum of the commissioners is subject to Arizona’s strictly enforced open meeting laws.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your net metering comments as well.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Burns
Bob,
This does not feel right, in a world worried about energy use and cost of building new energy plants to single out the individual who tries to help by adding capacity to the grid. As you read the following ask yourself should we be punishing the little guy who made assumptions base on the then current costs and future pan? As noted this is not right, please take action to help us.

Jason Bunting
22115 West Ashligh Marie
Buckeye, AZ

Attachment:

From: ddreesen@solarcity.com
To: ddreesen@solarcity.com
Subject: APS Update
Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2013 22:58:36 +0000

Hello,

I wanted to keep you abreast of what has happen the past week. We discovered two separate items that APS has not been forthcoming about and they do effect you.

The first is that they met behind closed doors with the ACC and got the buyback credit at the end of the year changed from their wholesale rate (The average of what it cost them to produce electricity) to the cost of their natural gas production. (The cheapest way they generate electricity at this time) It is going to reduce your year end buy back from approximately $.06/kwh to $.025/kwh. The change was made without anyone being aware that it was being considered.

The second is that APS is requesting that the “grandfather” clause concerning Net Metering and a Solar Monthly Fee only be extended to the person that currently has the solar system. The person that buys your house will not get the same benefits you receive. It will reduce the value of your system to the new homeowner and negatively impact your sale. It was believed that the “grandfather” clause was for the system and you could use that as a selling tool.
I encourage you to contact the commissioners at the ACC and let them know you are upset that they renegotiated the buyback calculator with APS without informing the public it was up for discussion. I also encourage you to let them know that you will not accept the "grandfather" clause not being extended to whomever purchases your home. You made your decision to go solar with these items included in the decision process and it isn't reasonable for them to change the rules in the middle of the game.

Sent from Windows Mail