Dear Chairman Bitter Smith:

The undersigned chambers of commerce collectively represent businesses of all sizes across the state. As organizations committed to improving the state’s economic competitiveness, we understand the need for a reliable electricity system that provides competitive electricity rates.

We support the growth of clean energy solutions and choices. We are proud to say Arizona is one of the top states for solar deployment and employment. However, to have safe, secure and affordable power it is imperative that our utility companies are able to properly recover costs for the assets of the grid. Over the past decade there has been enormous growth in the deployment of residential solar. The under-recovery from residential solar customers results in a cost-shift to other customers, which harms our state’s overall competitiveness.

Our organizations strive to ensure that our state’s laws keep pace with technology. Similarly, it is important that the rate structure keeps pace with this changing technology with respect to residential energy generation that relies on the grid for backup power.

APS’ proposal to minimize cost-shifting to non-solar customers for the maintenance of the grid is prudent, fair and should be considered as soon as possible. We believe all ratepayers have a stake in ensuring the integrity of the electric grid for the long term.

Our organizations want a diverse energy supply that includes clean energy options whose costs are borne broadly by all users. APS’ proposal is a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce
Ambos Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
The Black Chamber of Arizona
Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce
Chandler Chamber of Commerce
Douglas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce
Marana Chamber of Commerce
Mesa Chamber of Commerce
Sierra Vista Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Tempe Chamber of Commerce
Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Tucson Metro Chamber
Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce

CC: The Hon. Bob Burns, Commissioner
    The Hon. Tom Forese, Commissioner
    The Hon. Doug Little, Commissioner
    The Hon. Bob Stump, Commissioner