

**Jacob Veaghn**

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**From:** Jacob Veaghn on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2020 9:14 AM  
**To:** 'wckeller@earthlink.net'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Good Moring, William Keller

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200000 and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Jacob Veaghn  
Commission Deputy Clerk I  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
Jacob.Veaghn@psc.state.fl.us  
850.413.6656

-----Original Message-----

From: wckeller@everyactioncustom.com <wckeller@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:49 PM  
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
Subject: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

I understand that you will be holding a workshop to discuss customer-owned renewable generation on September 17, 2020. The word is out that the net metering policy is under attack. My family and I would like to make a statement for the record on the value of net metering laws in Florida and how ill-advised it would be to abolish, or dilute net metering as we know it. Instead of cutting back on net-metering, it should be expanded. Let me try to explain how we feel.

My family has been relying on rooftop solar for 12 years. From our view, net metering works to our benefit and that of our utility, FP&L. Net metering allows us the use of rooftop solar without having to invest in a storage system. The utility company agree to take our excess power and use it on the grid. And when we need power (for example, at night when the sun is not shining), they provide us with electricity. Our meter runs forward when we take power from the grid and backwards when we send them power. We agree to compensate each other according to the "net" reading. Net metering serves the interests of the customer and the utility. We don't have to invest in batteries to store our excess power (and carry us thru the nights) and the utility makes money on our excess power. FP&L pays less than 3 cents per kwh for our power and they sell it for about 12 cent/kwh, which more than offsets their cost of maintaining the grid.

12 years ago, when we decided to invest in solar, we made our capital decision based on having Florida's net metering laws being in place for the life of the project. And, the investment has paid off so far, returning about 9% on the investment. If the state of Florida dilutes or abolishes the net metering rules, our investment will be diminished because the cash flow will no longer be in our favor. Our utility bills will go up, and we will be subject to financial hardship- while

the utility company make out at our expense. This is not what older folks (we are 75) look forward to in their golden years.

On a grander scale, Florida – ironically called the sunshine state – has too many barriers to the use of distributed solar power. You forbid people in condos or apartment buildings from sharing a solar installation. Virtual net-metering (community solar) should be allowed in Florida to remedy this inequity. Another barrier is that net metering at full retail price is not mandated for non-publicly owned electrical providers. As I understand it, full retail price for power generated is only available to customers who are served by a public owned utility. We need make net-metering available to all rural and urban areas regardless of the utility provider. We need to take down these barriers so that distributed solar can grow, save families money, create jobs and reduce our use of fossil fuels that pollute our air and contribute to the climate crisis.

We urge you to keep net metering as it stands, and not abandon senior citizens like us by pulling the law out from under us. Solar with net metering saves money for families of all ages, and pays the utilities more than a fair price for tying us to the grid. It a win-win now just as it was when the law was conceived. Instead of trying to put up more barriers to solar power by diluting net metering rules, we believe you should be tearing barriers down by making virtual net metering the law of the land, and applying net metering to all in the state -not just those who are serviced by publicly owned utilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
William Keller  
16911 Ohara Dr Port Charlotte, FL 33948-2252