

**Brian Schultz**

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**From:** Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, September 21, 2020 9:55 AM  
**To:** 'GailWhitten@bellsouth.net'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Good Morning, Gail Whitten

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

Sincerely,

Brian Schultz  
Commission Deputy Clerk II  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
850.413.6770

PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

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

From: GailWhitten@everyactioncustom.com <GailWhitten@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 6:00 PM  
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
Subject: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

The citizens of Florida are outraged at the lackluster representation we are afforded by our elected and appointed officials. At a time when we are realizing drastic changes in our environment due to climate change, it seems unconscionable that you would not consider any options to support and encourage the installation and use of solar power. The "net metering" aspect is a win/win for the local communities as there will be less demand to purchase "surplus energy" from out of area providers when we experience high demand use periods. A reasonable fee structure is not an unreasonable or unobtainable solution to this environmentally responsible and forward thinking movement. Your support in this matter is expected and appreciated.

The middle of a public health and economic crisis is not the time to create more uncertainty by making changes to solar rights that will hurt jobs and take money out of people's pockets.

Before COVID-19, the Sunshine state produced the 4th most electricity from solar panels in the country, and employed over 12,000 people. Before this crisis began, "solar installer" was the fastest growing job in the country, and our industry

employed 250,000 people. The COVID-19 crisis could put half, 125,000, of these jobs at risk in communities across the United States. Florida has already lost 22% of its workforce due to economic uncertainty, and this could get worse.

People and businesses across the state rely on common sense solar policies to take control of their own energy, and choose how they power their lives.

Solar panels and batteries contribute to the resilience of the electric grid. As we enter hurricane season, Floridians need more tools – not less – in order to weather all the storms that are coming our way.

Please defend solar workers, business owners, and homeowners from additional uncertainty by preserving net metering here in Florida.

Sincerely,

Gail Whitten

712 Cherry St Neptune Beach, FL 32266-6600