

Jacob Veaughn

From: Jacob Veaughn on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 9:30 AM
To: 'caleb.dana@gmail.com'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Good afternoon, Caleb Dana

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

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

From: caleb.dana@everyactioncustom.com <caleb.dana@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 7:59 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

I urge the Florida PSC to maintain its current full 1 to 1 true net metering for residential, commercial, and industrial customers. Non solar customers do not "subsidize" solar customers. In fact, solar customers are subsidizing non-solar customers. These customers are not commercial power producers. They are no more than customers minimizing energy usage behind their meter such as installing energy efficient appliances. How is it fair that a customer that uses less energy is to be charged more for using less energy. Any excess power produced and returned to the grid is sold by the utility at retail price just down the grid. In fact such power addition adds benefits to the utility, saving the need for power production by the utility, power growth needs, grid power and power frequency stabilization, and significant environmental benefits of reduced pollution, power generation diversity, decentralization of power production, and American freedom. Utilities are supposed to serve the public desires and needs, not the other way around. Solar is less expensive; provides for more jobs, businesses, and industry; addresses climate change; and reduces pollution improving health and well being. The PSC should be requiring this of utilities, not bowing to utility pressure for increasing their profits. The PSC should be looking to the future. If utilities are serious about cost shifting and subsidizing, they should look to correcting their block rate structures. The PSC should be requiring utilities to address the inequities of block rates rather than a false concern for non-solar customers supposedly subsidizing solar customers. Thus I request and urge the Florida PSC to open a docket for investigating the inequities of block power cost rates of the utilities to see who is really subsidizing who. It is time that the need for socialized monopolistic power utilities be evaluated. Free enterprise capitalism may now or soon be able to meet our needs. Considering advances in smart technologies, AI, IT, and interconnected grids, utilities can now be broken up and sold to competitive entities which can reduce costs to

customers while still providing dependability. I urge the Florida PSC to open a docket to evaluate options for converting socialized power monopolies to privatized power companies.

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,
Caleb Dana
Madison, MS 39110