

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Fay
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Please place the email below in Docket No. 20210000

Thanks

Veronica D. Washington
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Andrew Fay Florida Public Service Commission
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-----Original Message-----

From: airdesigner@everyactioncustom.com [mailto:airdesigner@everyactioncustom.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 7:35 AM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Dear Commissioner Andrew Giles Fay,

Amid a public health and economic crisis, it's clear that Florida's electric utilities should be doing a whole lot more to promote rooftop solar - a known job creator that keeps money in families' pockets. Why would anyone want to mess with clean solar energy?

Before COVID-19, "solar installer" was the fastest growing job in the country, and the solar 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. In the Sunshine state, before this crisis began, the solar industry employed over 12,000 Floridians. Now, over 1 million Floridians are unemployed, and Florida has already lost 22% of its workforce.

People and businesses across the state rely on common sense solar policies to take control of their own energy, save money, and choose how they power their lives. My wife and I are going to buy a system to help the environment and hedge against energy losses.

Not only does solar create jobs and save us money, but when paired with batteries, solar panels can contribute to the resilience of the electric grid and provide back-up power in emergencies. As we face another intense hurricane season, Floridians need more tools – not fewer – in order to weather all the storms that are coming our way. We had a sailboat with just one solar panel that was amazing in the way it provided us with power for years.

Thank you for defending solar workers, business owners, and residents by protecting our bedrock solar policies here in Florida.

Sincerely,

Robert Ellis
30730 Alder Ave Eustis, FL 32736-7801