

From: [Steven Pontones](#)
To: [Lee Eng Tan](#)
Subject: Regarding FL's solar power initiatives and the Public Service Commission
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2015 3:11:45 PM

Please see that the Public Service Commission is aware of my thoughts regarding solar power.

To all parties concerned,

As a life-long Floridian, and one who has first hand experience with the benefits of photovoltaic power generation, I implore the Public Service Commission to consider the following as it examines Florida's laws, procedures, interests, etc in regards to solar power. It is vital that the PSC:

- 1) Protect net metering, which allows solar customers to feed electricity they don't use back into the power grid, preserving the right of all Floridians to install solar panels on their homes and businesses without being subject to punitive fees and charges by power companies, municipalities, or any other party.
- 2) Allow Florida residents to save money on their electricity bills through third-party sales of solar power, where solar businesses pay for and install solar systems on individual properties and sell the electricity generated to the customer at a fixed rate. This system has created significant economic opportunities in Hawaii and California, benefiting home-owners and the private sector.
- 3) Move our Florida away from expensive and polluting new fossil fuel and nuclear power plants by integrating cost-effective solar energy instead. Solar panels are now in cost parity with other traditional power sources, but they have between 1/10th and 1/100th the carbon impact as fossil fuel power plants, and they do not have the burden of potential meltdown, environmental contamination, and long-term storage of spent fuel rods that nuclear power generation has.

Especially in a state whose moniker is the Sunshine State, it seems like a gross violation of reason to create or tolerate a political environment that is not conducive to the growth of the solar power industry.

Thanks for your consideration,
Steve Pontones