

Antonia Hover

From: Consumer Contact
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: FW: FPL Rate Case
Attachments: PSC.docx

Consumer correspondence to docket 20210015.

Angela Calhoun

From: SAMUEL KENDALL <samuelk32@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 9, 2021 8:45 PM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: FPL Rate Case

PSC Contact
Please distribute attached letter to PSC Commissioners
Thank you
Samuel Kendall
Altamonte Springs, FL

FPL Rate Case

Oct 9, 2021

Minimum utility fees will reduce rooftop solar

Dear Commissioners:

Solar electricity is exploding. This is wonderful to see. For too many years we have subjected ourselves to lung damage from tiny particles emitted from fossil fuel generating plants. Emitted CO2 molecules have been holding heat on earth evaporating more water into massive rain events and more intense storms. Heat fatalities are increasing. Collecting and converting energy from outside the earth instead of from the inside will have lasting benefits for all. Solar is finally mainstream.

What is the optimal way to deploy all this new solar power. Are the large solar farms best for capturing this energy? There is not universal agreement about this. Using land in this way is creating conflicts. The state has already moved in favor of the utility farms with legislation to subdue local planning board objections. Citizen objections are being marginalized. Continuing to expand solar farms will put demands on land use at the same time our population growth, housing, food production, reforestation, habitat and biodiversity requirements also need land. What are the alternatives?

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory has released a report estimating that there is enough rooftop space available in Florida to produce up to 47% of our electricity needs. This space includes all building types but the vast majority is on single family homes because of their sheer numbers. This rooftop space is already in use so taking over new land won't be necessary. Producing electricity on rooftops leaves land available for valuable alternative uses.

Yet the momentum of solar energy deployment is favoring the utilities. By momentum I'm talking about cost advantages as well as accelerated permitting. Utilities can purchase panels in bulk discounts. Despite decreasing panel prices the cost of installation for homeowners is still significant. Net-metering has been perhaps the best homeowner incentive yet some municipal utilities have reduced this credit. Investor owned utilities have been signaling for years that they want the incentive reduced.

Utilities are in competition with rooftop solar. I think we will regret not taking advantage of rooftop space for solar collection. Arizona Public Service has a pilot program which gives a \$30 credit to homeowners who allow the utility to install, own and maintain a solar system. If utilities here require a minimum utility fee for all solar homes it will discourage even further the advantages of privately owned rooftop solar. In this state private investors are our only hope to expand the rooftop space.

Respectfully,
Samuel Kendall