

Berry, Taylor

From: Laura Hale <lphale4021@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 1:01 PM
To: Statements
Subject: Docket E-100, Sub 180CS

Dear NC Utilities Commission:

The currently active net metering plan that requires Duke Energy to provide full kwh-for-kwh credit for power shared by rooftop solar customers to the grid should stay the way it is. This plan encourages homeowners to install rooftop solar at their own expense and to contribute any excess power they generate to the grid rather than storing it on-site or wasting it, while receiving full credit for their energy production. Adopting Duke Energy's current proposal would make it harder to reach "payback" on solar installations, essentially putting it out of reach for low and moderate-income households. It also is tremendously complicated. Duke Energy's claim that rooftop solar customers are somehow not paying their fair share makes no sense. Especially since all solar customers pay a \$19.99 monthly fee, even during months where they use no Duke Energy power at all. Duke Energy's claim that somehow this forces the poor to subsidize the affluent simply has no merit. What net metering does do is to prevent Duke Energy from profiting on the backs of rooftop solar customers by selling the power they get for free back to customers at standard retail rate. Since rooftop solar owners produce power at times when power draw is high (summer in the daytime), they actually help the overall grid and the environment by minimizing the amount of fossil fuels burned during that time.

In my opinion, the Utilities Commission should be encouraging all homeowners to both conserve energy and to install solar when their site allows this. And it should ban Duke Energy from creating any new gas-fired power plants. We are in a climate emergency now. Increasing our use of renewable energy while decreasing use of fossil fuel is needed to secure a future for our children. It is irresponsible to allow Duke Energy to do anything that limits use and expansion of solar and will thus increase the use of fossil fuel and this is what the Utilities Commission is supposed to prevent. Please do your job and continue net metering for rooftop solar customers with full kwh-for-kwh credit for power shared to the grid to encourage, not hamstring, rooftop solar in North Carolina.

Sincerely,
Laura P. Hale
4021 Carver St
Durham, NC 27705

OFFICIAL COPY

May 25 2022