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Mount, Gail

From: George Burazer [georgeburazer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 10:40 PM
To: Statements
Subject: Protect net metering and solar energy in N.C. (Docket E-100 Sub 83)

FILED
MAY 22 2014
Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

Dear North Carolina Utilities Commission:

We, the undersigned, are North Carolina electricity customers. We urge you to stand strong for North Carolinians like us against Duke Energy's attempts to weaken rooftop solar rights.

North Carolina ranks among our nation's top solar states, but unlike other leaders, that solar power is overwhelmingly in the hands of the utility rather than the rooftops of homes, schools, and businesses.

Now Duke Energy has publicly stated that it wants to weaken North Carolina's net metering program for rooftop solar. The utility is working to keep its own monopoly grip on electricity by reducing the amount of credit that its customer receive on their electricity bills for valuable solar power. North Carolinians deserve better.

Rooftop solar power delivers numerous economic and health benefits to North Carolina. Private investment in local power reduces the need for expensive and polluting conventional power plants and transmission infrastructure. Recent analysis found that these direct grid benefits outweigh the costs by 30 percent. The state's growing solar industry supports more than 2,400 local jobs throughout the state, nearly doubling last year alone. And, perhaps most importantly, rooftop solar gives North Carolinians control over their electricity bills and energy resources like never before.

As Duke Energy takes its fight against rooftop solar rights to the Utilities Commission, we hope you'll stand strong for North Carolinians and do what you can to keep rooftop solar shining with strong net metering.

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