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May 24, 2019

North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4300

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Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a new solar energy user, having had panels installed on my house in November. I've been generating some great solar energy since they were turned on at the beginning of February. So much so, that I currently have an excess of 555 kWh. Imagine my concern when I received a notification from Duke Energy that my kWh would be zeroed out at the end of May. "How is this fair?", I asked myself. I certainly thought, or hoped, that I could call and have that date changed. It's preposterous to think that they would zero out my excess kWh right before summer, when I need them the most to run my air conditioning.

I called Duke Energy and spoke with a very understanding woman who stated that she gets this complaint all the time, that the law is set by the NC Utilities Commission and encouraged me to write you. How do you think this is a fair law?? I paid \$20,000 for my system. I still have to pay Duke \$20 a month (\$14 grid tie fee, \$3.13 for street lights, and taxes) which already infuriates me. Now they are telling me that they get to keep my excess kWh for free???? I'm utterly disgusted (but honestly not surprised since we live in a country full of corporate greed).


So, I'm writing to kindly ask you to reconsider this unfair law of zeroing out excess kWhs. Please consider, if you can't find it in your hearts to remove the law, at least changing it to zero out at the end of fall. Or perhaps create different laws for those that utilize gas vs. electric for heating in the winter. Or even consider paying us per excess kWhs, like South Carolina does.

Those that decide to use solar panels do not take the decision to do so lightly. We complete a lot of research to ensure it's the right decision, both economically and environmentally. We should be rewarded for trying to save the planet, in what little way we can, from imploding on itself for future generations. I wish more people considered it, but at the moment, it is not an economical possibility for most. With this new information, it may be come less and less popular, which is maybe what you all want in the long run.

Look, I work for a corporation. I get that money is the bottom line, but I also get that you must make your client's happy in that process. Duke already has a terrible reputation in this state. Taking this small step (and I'm sure in the large bucket, this change would be a few pennies) would mean so much to those that have already spent their hard-earned dollars on trying to help the environment.

I hope you consider changing this law. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


Jill Steere

Cc: Duke Energy