

## Berry, Taylor

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**From:** Richard DAngiolillo <rdangiolillo@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2022 10:19 PM  
**To:** Statements  
**Subject:** Docket E-100 Sub 180CS

I am writing to you to ask you to not adopt Duke Energy's proposal regarding changing the way existing and future residential owners and lessees will be charged and compensated for their commitment to clean, carbon free, renewable solar energy. I'm also asking you to have an outside, independent, neutral analysis of any changes to the rate structure and compensation to residential owners of solar systems.

These are points I am asking the Commission to consider regarding this docket. I'm speaking as a home owner that has had a solar system installed since November 2015.

The first point is that the proposed request by Duke Energy treats residential solar systems such as mine in an a different and unfair manor. DEC is proposing an additional monthly fee for net metering home solar energy owners. This is unfair. If a non-solar customer decreases their use of electric power by deploying energy efficiencies such as installing better insulation or a more efficient HVAC system they will not be charged this additional fee for their energy efforts and investments for those installations. Also, DEC proposes to net metering solar system owners, a significantly lesser compensation rate based on a complicated time of use schedule that is not when solar energy produces its maximum output. This does not take into account that we are contributing energy efficiencies by producing some of our own energy, with the excess fed into the grid, which lessens the need for DEC to build more expensive generation strategies. This lesser compensation rate will make our investment in our solar systems less valuable after we made our commitment, years ago, with the simpler way we are compensated currently, the DEC residential rate. We are having the rug pulled out from underneath us.

In fact currently, on May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year DEC takes any excess energy we have fed into the grid for the year (Jun 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>) outright without any compensation at all. Last year, 2021, this amounted for me to 460 Kwh and this year will probably be more than 500 Kwh. Over the past, near 7 years I've had with my home solar system, it has averaged between 300 to 500 Kwh per year. This is free energy to DEC. It is unfair to not be compensated for this energy.

In short, why should we be charged at a different and more expensive rate structure, which is overly complicated, and charged additional fees. This will be less advantageous to we who have invested in solar energy that reduces use of DEC's mostly carbon producing generated electricity.

The next point, is that Gov. Cooper in October of 2018 issued an executive order to the NC Dept. of Environmental Quality to come up with a comprehensive plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2025, 70% by 2030 and attain net carbon neutrality by 2050. The result is The North Carolina Clean Energy Plan issued in September of 2019. This is an aggressive, and in my estimation necessary set of goals to build a future that is healthier, less disruptive and destructive to life and society, due to more extreme weather events, and as we now know from the horrors of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, a more energy secure future based on renewable energy sources. Duke Energy has an opportunity to work with renewable energy generators of all sorts, including residential home owners, to make these goals real. Unfortunately, their current proposal for what is known as Net Metering 2.0 will make attaining these goals much more difficult. The complicated and unfair rate schedules and usage regime proposed will discourage and dampen homeowner's adoption of residential solar systems. It is estimated that the adoption of DEC proposal will reduce the demand for new installations of residential solar systems by home owners by 25 to 35%.

Due to the overwhelming complications proposed, using an estimated 17,000 (yes 17,000!) data points as opposed to the 24, yes 24, data points, currently used to model the cost and paybacks for future home owners,

it will be an impossible task for the solar installers to give an accurate estimation of the advantages of installing residential solar. This will undermine their ability to give an accurate picture of what solar energy systems can offer and ultimately undermine their credibility. This is, I'm sure, not what Gov. Cooper, nor do the people of North Carolina expect or want. In short, this is simply obstruction on DEC's part, by obfuscation.

North Carolina has a healthy, growing and very good solar energy industry, including a strong residential solar installation set of companies that employ a growing number of people at good wages, making our state the number 4 state in the US for solar energy generation. Over the more recent past few years, we have attracted high tech companies such as Apple, Google, an EV battery manufacturing facility by Toyota, and just recently the EV car company, VinFast. These companies will be employing thousands of people who will be expecting strong support for solar and renewable energy as demonstrated by the Clean Energy Plan. And as new homeowners in North Carolina many will be looking for the ability to install solar systems on their home premises. They will be committed in their outside-of-work lives, as in their at-work lives, to making the transition here in North Carolina to a carbon free future for their families, their neighbors, our state, our country and ultimately all of us who share our planet.

Please keep these points in mind as you work through the enormously complicated task of moving our energy system into a better, healthier and carbon free future. Thank you for taking the time to review this statement.

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