

From: [Cammy Benton](#)
To: [Statements](#)
Subject: Statement of Position Submitted by Cammy Benton
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Statement of Position Submitted

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Docket

Docket E-100 Sub 180

Message

Key arguments against Duke Energy's net metering proposal include: NC House Bill 589 requires that the NCUC investigate the costs and benefits of rooftop solar before any changes to net metering are made, and that investigation has yet to be conducted. Duke Energy claims solar customers pay less than their fair share for using the grid, but that has not been proven, and some studies show the opposite. Demand that the NCUC conduct a full cost-benefit study of rooftop solar. Reducing the value of solar will make it more difficult to hit North Carolina's established climate goals. Thousands of rooftop solar jobs are at risk if Duke's proposal passes. The proposal is extremely complex, which could lead to unpredictable bill increases for solar customers. As one solar industry professional recently said of the plan, "complexity is anti-consumer." North Carolina should retain its current, straightforward net metering policy. Depending on what the NCUC decides, existing solar customers could be forced onto the new plan as soon as 2027. The plan could include: higher fixed monthly fees time-of-use billing where the price for the electricity bought from or exported to the grid would vary by time of day, with peak rates applying from 6-9pm (summer) or 6-9am (winter) when little solar power is being produced; this does not even coincide with Duke's actual peak demand compensation for excess solar exports at a wholesale rate (instead of rolling over from month to month as excess credits do now, you would be paid out for them at the end of each month, but at less than 3 cents per kilowatt-hour instead of retail rates of around 10 cents) Duke Energy should not be allowed to change the economics of your solar investment decision after the fact. Existing customers should be allowed to stay on their current net metering plan for the life of their system.