

SPEAK UP FOR ROOFTOP SOLAR AND CLEAN ENERGY IN TUCSON!

Tucson Electric Power (TEP) has made a proposal to state regulators at the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) that would make it more difficult and expensive for Tucsonans to 'go solar.' Meanwhile, TEP is still invested in San Juan Generating Station a costly, polluting, out-of-state coal plant.

TEP Should Support Local Clean Energy Jobs and Stop Attacking Rooftop Solar!

Relying heavily on fossil fuel plants hundreds of miles from Tucson, Tucson Electric Power (TEP) puts our future at risk.

- Pollution from TEP's coal plants causes serious health effects and releases millions of pounds of carbon dioxide, a potent greenhouse gas.
- As of 2014, TEP = 80% coal!
 - Tucson Electric Power has a stake in five coal plants, four of which are hundreds of miles from Tucson:
 - San Juan Generating Station near Farmington, NM
 - Four Corners Generating Station near Fruitland, NM
 - Springerville Generating Station near Springerville, AZ
 - Navajo Generating Station near Page, AZ
 - Sundt Generating Station on Tucson's south side
 - Natural gas accounted for 12% of TEP's total resources in 2014, meaning TEP is 92% fossil fuel. ***TEP uses only 4% renewables and 4% efficiency. Only 1% is rooftop solar.***

TEP should stop attacking residential rooftop solar and instead support local clean energy jobs:

- TEP has proposed a tariff on rooftop solar that will undercut Arizona's solar economy.
 - In a proposal to the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), TEP would take energy produced by new solar rooftop customers, paying them less than 6 cents per kilowatt-hour while selling it to other customers for about 13 cents.
 - Rooftop solar customers would no longer have the ability to 'bank' the excess energy produced when usage is low and use it when usage is high.
 - Working-class families would be "priced out" of owning their own solar panels.
- TEP should support Arizona's 9,170 solar workers and other local clean energy Jobs
 - Arizona created more than 600 new jobs in the solar industry last year alone, a job rate growth of 7.2%, and we rank third nationally in the number of solar jobs.
 - These jobs highlight the enormous potential for new jobs in transitioning from fossil fuels to locally-generated, clean, renewable energy.

TEP should divest immediately from the out-of-state San Juan Generating Station.

- Continued operation of the obsolete plant will cost about \$1 billion more than anticipated. TEP ratepayers will bear a significant portion of these costs.
- Ownership of the San Juan coal mine, which fuels the plant, is not established past 2017.
- This year, a coalition of Arizona groups and businesses calls on TEP to divest from the San Juan coal plant.

TEP has made positive progress in the past, and we expect more from them.

- TEP pledged to end coal combustion at the Sundt Generating Station on Tucson's south side by the end of 2017.
- TEP offers efficiency programs that save energy, cut pollution and save customers money. For example, there is a new appliance recycling program as of this year!

WHAT CAN I DO?

Contact your Corporation Commissioners and urge them to oppose proposals for tariffs on rooftop solar [from TEP, Trico, or Sulphur Springs Electric Co-op]!

Call and email these Arizona Corporation Commissioners:

Chairwoman Susan Bitter Smith — 602-542-3625 and BitterSmith-web@azcc.gov
Commissioner Bob Stump — 602-542-3935 and stump-web@azcc.gov
Commissioner Bob Burns — 602-542-3682 and RBurns-web@azcc.gov
Commissioner Tom Forese — 602-542-3933 and Forese-web@azcc.gov
Commissioner Doug Little — 602-542-0745 and Little-web@azcc.gov

Raise these key points (adapt to your specific provider):

1. Please oppose TEP's proposal to waive the net metering rules and add a tariff to new residential solar rooftop customers.
2. Arizona's solar workforce is more than 9,000 strong and growing. TEP's proposal would undercut the solar industry when we need to support it.
3. TEP sends millions of dollars to out-of-state, polluting coal plants, and should instead invest in local jobs and the local solar industry.

Example Email (for TEP, Trico, or Sulphur Springs, depending on your provider):

Dear Chairman and Commissioners,

Concerning ACC Docket Number TEP-15-0100:

My name is John Smith and I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power.

I write you to urge you to oppose the waiver of the net metering rules and an additional, burdensome tariff for new TEP residential solar customers. Rooftop solar provides clean energy and good jobs here in Arizona.

I am confident you will do the right thing for Arizona and our state's economy. Please oppose TEP's proposed changes to residential solar rooftop net metering.

Thank you, Address

John Smith

The most impactful communications are:

- Courteous and respectful
- Individual and personalized
- Factual and honest
- Will NOT politicize the issue

Be sure to cite the ACC Docket Number for the appropriate proposal:

TEP-15-0100

Sulphur Springs Electric Coop-15-0127

Trico-15-0057

Other messages you may want to include:

- Any re-pricing of solar should be part of a more general rate case.
- Please hold the hearing on TEP's proposal in Tucson, close to potentially impacted customers.
- Rooftop solar lightens the load on the grid, thus increasing its reliability, and reduces the utility's need to burn coal, thus reducing its carbon footprint. In these ways, rooftop solar benefits all ratepayers.

Handout courtesy of Sierra Club (adapted). More info: dan.millis@sierraclub.org

For more information on Sierra Club's letter-writing campaign & model letters, also go to:
http://action.sierraclub.org/site/PageServer?pagename=CHP_AZ_SolarAttack&autologin=true

Another resource of interest:

"The Benefits and Costs of Solar Distributed Generation for Arizona Public Service"

<https://www.seia.org/research-resources/benefits-costs-solar-distributed-generation-arizona-public-service>

and an article about the study: <http://www.seia.org/news/new-study-distributed-solar-energy-provides-34-million-benefits-arizona-ratepayers>