

Jacob Veaghn

From: Jacob Veaghn on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 9:19 AM
To: 'gulfquest4@gmail.com'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Good Morning, Constance Cranford

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200000 and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Jacob Veaghn
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
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850.413.6656

-----Original Message-----

From: gulfquest4@everyactioncustom.com <gulfquest4@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 4:00 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

This spring I invested almost \$50,000 on a solar system for my home with the understanding that I could recoup my investment expenses within 10 years due to the present net metering regulations within the state of FL. I feel very strongly that increasing and supporting regulations that encourage homeowners and business to take charge of their energy independence is important for the resilience of this state now and in the future.

Florida should lead the country in supporting alternative energy solutions, not cowtow to pressures from utility companies that are supporting their enterprises on the backs of consumers who have no say in the price they are being charged for their electricity. As it is, Florida is already one of the most expensive states for electricity.

The middle of a public health and economic crisis is not the time to create more uncertainty by making changes to solar rights that will hurt jobs and take money out of people's pockets.

Before COVID-19, the Sunshine state produced the 4th most electricity from solar panels in the country, and employed over 12,000 people. Before this crisis began, "solar installer" was the fastest growing job in the country, and our industry employed 250,000 people. The COVID-19 crisis could put half, 125,000, of these jobs at risk in communities across the United States. Florida has already lost 22% of its workforce due to economic uncertainty, and this could get worse.

People and businesses across the state rely on common sense solar policies to take control of their own energy, and choose how they power their lives.

Solar panels and batteries contribute to the resilience of the electric grid. As we enter hurricane season, Floridians need more tools – not less – in order to weather all the storms that are coming our way.

Please defend solar workers, business owners, and homeowners from additional uncertainty by preserving net metering here in Florida.

Sincerely,
Constance Cranford
6106 Seaside Dr New Port Richey, FL 34652-2044