

Antonia Hover

From: Veronica Washington
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Ltr from Linda Smithe - Dkt No. 20200000
Attachments: Ltr from Linda Smithe.pdf

Please place the attached letter in Docket No. 20200000

Thanks

Veronica D. Washington

Executive Assistant to Commissioner Andrew Fay
Florida Public Service Commission
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August 28, 2020

Commissioner Andrew Giles Fay
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Renewable Solar Energy for Florida

Dear Commissioner Fay,

I appreciate your work on the Florida's Power Plant Siting Act and on the NARU Critical Infrastructure Committee protecting our electric grid from both physical and cyber-attack. Your experiences have made you aware that affordable renewable energy is where businesses, the United States, and the world is going.

So, I am surprised you are even considering a change in solar policies that are helping to make our state a leader in clean solar power and providing good paying local jobs.

Florida was ranked 4th in the nation for solar energy production, employing thousands of people and powering the Sunshine State with clean, affordable, homegrown energy. The economic downturn has put many of these jobs and future solar development at risk. We don't need sudden regulatory changes in solar policies to create even more uncertainty in Florida.

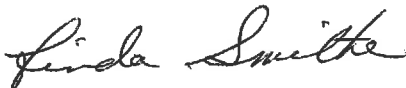
Our current net metering rule allows Floridians to grow a segment of the solar market by choosing to power their homes and businesses. Florida citizens and customers overwhelmingly support the current successful net metering policy allowing compensation for the solar energy they generate and provide to the electric grid.

Please protect the opportunity for business and homeowners to generate clean solar power. Support local jobs by preserving our successful net metering rules here in Florida.

I also strongly disagree with allowing publicly regulated power companies to lower their renewable goals. We need to be increasing these goals. Look to North Carolina and use them as a starting point and strive to do even better than them.

I am an Architect, mother and grandmother who has installed solar on my home, using locally manufactured solar panels, and I have purchased a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle. I also purchase ECS, Renewable Energy Credits, to offset my carbon consumption.

Sincerely,



Linda Smithe,
Register Architect, USGBC LEED AP-BD&C, Member of the Sierra Club, National Audubon, National Parks Conservation Association, World Wildlife Fund, The Nature Conservancy, Ocean Conservancy, Wilderness Society, and Natural Resources Defense Council.