

Antonia Hover

From: Cristina Slaton
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 6:06 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket Correspondence
Attachments: SG33-KM_45820090317370.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please place the attached letter in Docket No. 20200000

Thank you,

Cristina Slaton
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Polmann
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August 28, 2020

Commissioner Donald J. Polman
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Renewable Solar Energy for Florida

Dear Commissioner Polman,

I appreciate your service as director of Science and Engineering for Tampa Bay Water and your experience as a consulting engineer. Your undergraduate and graduate degrees in Environmental Engineering and your membership in the External Advisory Board for the University of Florida Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment are also very impressive. 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.