

Jacob Veaghn

From: Jacob Veaghn on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2020 8:45 AM
To: 'berryp1@yahoo.com'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Good afternoon, Peter Berry

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
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Tallahassee, Florida 32399
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850.413.6656

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

From: berryp1@everyactioncustom.com <berryp1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2020 8:34 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Protect our solar rights! Docket: 2020-0000

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

Amid a public health and economic crisis, it's clear that Florida's electric utilities should be doing a whole lot more to promote rooftop solar - a known job creator that keeps money in families' pockets.

Before COVID-19, "solar installer" was the fastest growing job in the country, and the solar 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. In the Sunshine state, before this crisis began, the solar industry employed over 12,000 Floridians. Now, over 1 million Floridians are unemployed, and Florida has already lost 22% of its workforce.

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

Not only does solar create jobs and save us money, but when paired with batteries, solar panels can contribute to the resilience of the electric grid and provide back-up power in emergencies. As we face another intense hurricane season, Floridians need more tools – not fewer – in order to weather all the storms that are coming our way.

Thank you for defending solar workers, business owners, and residents by protecting our bedrock solar policies here in Florida.

I believe that I had a part in starting Net Metering. In the 2002/03 school year, I planned to install PV on Westside Tech. I contacted, then Progress Energy, and they said if I did, they would charge me another \$79 a month to read a second meter showing the electricity that we produced. I contacted the Commissioners and suggested net metering. It happened!

I sent my Electrical Instructor to FSEC for a week of training, and when he returned, we taught the students how to install the systems. We went on to install systems at Ocoee Elementary School and Ocoee Middle School. There is never enough money for education, but if we can use the sun to lower utility bills, then more money can be used for educating students.

Sincerely,

Peter Berry

2636 Lake Howell Ln Winter Park, FL 32792-6048