

From: [Orin Rosenfeld](#)
To: [Lee Eng Tan](#)
Subject: Solar Energy in Florida - Request for Comments
Date: Friday, April 24, 2015 3:57:01 PM

Lee,

Please see below for my answers.

1. What policies or programs would be most effective at promoting demand-side solar energy systems (i.e., programs effective on the customer side of the meter)?
Customers like to save money so any policy or program that can outline the cost savings that would be realized by using solar energy as compared to other energy sources would be very effective. And if people can help the environment as they save money it would be that much more appealing to consumers.
2. What policies or programs would be most effective at promoting supply-side solar energy systems (i.e., utility or third-party owned)?
Utility companies have a duty to customers to provide the most cost effective and environmentally sound energy. Solar is one of these and cannot be ignored any longer, especially in a state with abundant sunshine like Florida. Utility companies must highlight the cost effectiveness, sustainability, and design functionality of solar energy.

In providing comments on the above items, please address each of the following factors, as appropriate:

- a) Can the policies or programs be implemented under current Florida statutes?
Florida statutes would have to be amended to allow utility competition from third parties since there currently is a monopoly. Once the statutes were changed it would be very easy to implement the policies and programs.
- b) Can the policies or programs be implemented under current FPSC rules? If not, what changes or additions to the rules would be needed?
I don't know I am not an expert on FPSC rules.
- c) What are the impacts of the policies or programs on system reliability?
There would need to be adjustments to the electrical grid to handle the new solar systems but they would be minor in scope and easy to implement. Other cities have done this before so it would make sense to follow their example on how to best implement the changes.
- d) What are the impacts of the policies or programs on system fuel diversity?
By using more solar energy it would be greatly diversifying Florida's energy sources, which rely heavily on natural gas now. We get less than 1% of our energy from solar now, so any increase there would be improving fuel diversity.
- e) Identify the cost-effectiveness of the policies or programs compared to traditional forms of generation.
The price of solar energy is dropping continuously now that the panels are becoming more widely produced. I would think it is the most cost effective energy source but I

am not an expert on the cost of energy systems on a large scale.

- f) Identify specific costs associated with the policies or programs and who will bear these costs.

The costs for the policies and programs would be shared by third party energy companies who would be allowed to compete against FPL for customers in terms of advertising, by the state, cities and counties to promote cleaner energy and provide tax incentives to people and companies to utilize the technology which would include advertising costs, customers (both residential and commercial) would buy new equipment to convert their current systems. The benefits of these costs would be more jobs created by the new competition, and also to the environment for using a cleaner and more sustainable energy source.

- g) Identify how the policies or programs will be fair, just, and reasonable across the general body of ratepayers.

If solar energy is something that gets pursued on a large scale, then prices should become standardized and regulated by the state, counties and cities. This would apply to solar utility rates, installation of systems and equipment/panels. The newfound utility competition will drive costs down even further which will result in better pricing for ratepayers.

3. Are there any other policies or programs that could promote the development and deployment of solar energy systems in Florida?

Highlighting the current solar energy successes in the state and projects under construction (Daytona International Speedway and for the U.S. Army) would be very effective and impressive. It would also be beneficial to highlight current projects that have been successfully implemented in the U.S. and around the world to show people how solar works and the benefits it can provide. But the cost effectiveness is going to be most important, showing people that they can save money by switching to solar energy.

Just let me know if you have any questions. Have a great weekend.



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