



Open Letter

Dear Commissioners,

The Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) tariff revisions will play a critical role in the Commonwealth's solar energy development. Ensuring an equitable distribution of solar benefits is of the utmost importance.

Some of the revisions proposed by investor-owned utilities in Docket D.P.U. 20-145 are positive, including the Eversource Community Solar Access Program (ECSAP). Others, however, don't meet the needs of the Commonwealth's low-income and overburdened communities.

As a Massachusetts ratepayer, I encourage you to take the following steps in support of a just and equitable SMART tariff:

1. Reject the community solar program proposed by National Grid, as it creates needless barriers to solar access for underserved customers.
2. Curb utility bias by rejecting favoritism for community solar projects administered by utilities.
3. Remove limitations on energy storage that is DC-coupled with solar, allowing for a more efficient system with greater environmental benefits.
4. Revise the Allocation of Alternative On-Bill Credits (AOBC) proposal to be in compliance with the Department of Energy Resources statutes.

Thank you for your work to improve the SMART program and bring Massachusetts back to a leadership position on clean energy. I appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on the SMART program and hope you will make these much needed improvements.

Signatories and Additional Comments

Claire Chang

Greenfield, MA 01301

Utility: Eversource

Comments: Thank you for considering and enacting these 4 SMART measures for all the ratepayers of the Commonwealth.

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Richard Beal

480 E Broadway, Haverhill, MA 01830

Utility: National Grid

Comments: I am leasing my system from NRG of 39 panels mounted on the roof and have already done so for 6 years. I have not paid an electric bill for many years. I think this is great. As you can see, I am using plenty of clean energy. I urge DPU to make the program as strong and equitable as possible.

Kenneth Rogers

83 Paul Gore Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Comments: As a global community we are in great need of investing significantly, immediately and effectively in renewable energy resources such as solar. Access to such also needs to be made available to all ratepayers equally. Please act now to build a just and equitable solar program.

Christine Roane

123 Bronson Terrace, Springfield, MA 01108

Utility: Eversource

Comments: Please stand for equality in solar access!

Emma Houseman

20 Reid Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824

Utility: National Grid

Comments: As a senior citizen of 81, I have a perfect location for solar but no money to install it. Solar is one of our best options for individuals to do their part to slow global warming. We need to make this technology available to all rich and poor alike at as low a cost to no cost as possible.

Adele Franks

123 Black Birch Trail, Florence, MA 01062

Utility: National Grid

Comments: Going solar needs to be much easier in MA! In addition to the suggestions in the body of the letter, please provide oversight of interconnection agreements so that they are more equitable, efficiently handled and economically sensible. Thank you.

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Lois Grossman

33 West Street, Medford, MA 02155

Utility: National Grid

Comments: The best part of having solar is being able to give back to the grid what you don't use. Everyone should be able to have solar panels, connect to the grid, earn tax breaks and sell their SRECS to offset higher winter energy use. We will not make progress toward social equity if we do not make it possible for everyone to afford solar power.

John Howard

14 The Knolls, South Hadley, MA 01075

Comments: Please continue to fund the MLP solar incentive! Help the MLP towns get Solar. It has been a big factor in my town's PV installs.

Jane Moonsbruker

40 Brewster Lane, Acton, MA 01720

Utility: Eversource

Comments: Please make the SMART program stronger by: lifting the limits on energy storage; not reducing customer compensation based on their use of the solar energy they produce.

Alan Papsun

40 Glendale Road, Stockbridge, MA 01262

Utility: National Grid

Comments: As a solar proponent for over 40 years we need to make solar the future and affordable for ALL Massachusetts residents!

Margaret Traina

88 Masonic Home Road, Apt R213, Charlton, MA 01507

Utility: Municipal

Comments: This country is WAY behind where it should be developing alternative power sources! Revisions are just another avenue to greater renewable energy resources.

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Ken Kippen

142 John Ford Road, Apt D, Ashfield, MA 01330

Utility: Eversource

Comments: The SMART program is incredibly influential and will set the course for the Bay State's solar development for years to come.

Karin Hemmingsen

361 Richardson Avenue, Attleboro, MA 02703

Utility: National Grid

Comments: I have had a very good income. However, it would have been very difficult for me to have afforded home solar in 2010 if I had not been able to avail myself of a solar leasing program. I know that even though the cost of solar power has improved over the years since, it would still be impossible for many low and middle income homeowners to afford now. We should be doing absolutely everything possible to increase solar generation in our state and to expand access to everyone given our current climate catastrophe. The needs of humanity far outweigh the profit making concerns of the electric utilities.

Jon Macht

121 Balance Rock Road, Pittsfield, MA 01201

Utility: Eversource

Comments: The utilities should be required to offer commercial system owners the option of either allocation of their energy or direct compensation. Especially on smaller commercial projects, it's very cumbersome and time consuming to track and bill several users for consumption. Simply sending regular checks to generators is far, far simpler for everyone. Are the utilities crediting the generators at the discounted rate and then withdrawing the energy at the retail rate? Someone should be checking on this.

Enoch Huang

46 Cloverdale Road, Worcester, MA 01609

Utility: Eversource

Comments: Please strengthen the SMART program to make it more accessible to all citizens.

June Leone

Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Utility: Eversource

Comments: As part of the program please develop a strong policy that public utilities will buy the excess energy that homeowners with solar panels produce. We've had panels since the end of 2018. We currently have a \$3000+ credit with Eversource and it's growing every month. We have no opportunities to sell to other Eversource users as the formulation doesn't allow previously earned credit to be used. It must be sold as an allocated percentage of future production. Please change this so that we can sell from our already earned excess. We should be paid 1-3 cents less per kWh than what we are charged and they can sell it as clean energy to

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other consumers. If we do not produce an excess in any given month we would receive a bill to pay like any other consumer. There is much more that I could say here. Please feel free to contact me by email to set a time for a conversation. Thank you JuneLeone@aol.com.

William Kadish

24 Brattle Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Utility: National Grid

Comments: I have had rooftop solar since 2012 and I love it! Massachusetts residents are highly motivated to switch to renewable energy but we need the strongest possible program from the state to help us out. Not everyone is a wealthy homeowner like me and they deserve equal opportunity to drive the renewable revolution.

Sandra Legasy

11 White Terrace, Auburn, MA 01501

Utility: National Grid

Comments: It's about time we started being smart about our fuel sources. I want my kids and grandkids to have a healthy planet to call home.

Matthew Reardon

4 Orchard Street, Medway, MA 02053

Utility: Municipal

Comments: Do all you can to increase solar utilization in Massachusetts. We are decades past the time when we need to move past fossil fuels and cannot delay any further.

John Zimmerman

Easthampton, MA 01207

Utility: Eversource

Comments: As long as the Commonwealth's Investor-owned Utilities are calling the shots, and are controlling the DPU because they have the loudest and most organized voices, and are the biggest donors to anything political, any real progress will be fake and tokenism. As an owner of a share in a Community shared cooperatively owned and operated small (25 KW) PV solar installation, I can tell you that the Utility company did EVERYTHING that they could to thwart and prevent us from ever installing our system, from dragging their feet for something like a year in the 'permitting' and 'design' process, to absolutely outrageous interconnection fees (\$17,000+ for the same interconnection that was 'given' – at \$850 and \$1200 – to two other local business people who were buying the utility power, at an even higher KW rate than we would be producing, but they are consumer businesses) and stunningly idiotic requirements (like a \$1500 'road to nowhere', for 300 feet, from driveway to the array, which they NEVER used!). Unless the DPU and the SMART Program stops catering to the Utility Companies and starts making the service to the people of the Commonwealth their primary mission, the efforts at reform will always fail. PV Solar is succeeding only because it actually is reasonable, and reasonably competitive, and because the participants in the PV Solar market are involved and dedicated because they are passionate about the environment and about slowing climate change and

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saving the Earth. To take the next step, to make PV and other alternative solar energy technologies actually dominant and to allow clean and green energy to take over the market, these 'alternative' sources must become mainstream, and in order to achieve that, these sources must be allowed to be as competitive with legacy-fueled systems as they can be. And Community Shared Solar MUST be reinforced and encouraged in order to address the 70+% of all structures in the Commonwealth that do NOT have direct access to a solar-enabled or adaptable site. This can ONLY be achieved by enabling and supporting off-site solar power generation, with minimal and reasonable fees for transmission being charged by the Utility Companies. As long as the Utility Companies primary concern is to make short-term big profits for their outside investors (shareholders) and those same Utility Companies are telling the Government what they will do (OK, 'must' do), the goals of a self-sustaining and 'green' energy grid and system can NOT be achieved. The 'alternative' sources of 'green' energy can be competitive and in fact can undersell (be significantly cheaper than) the legacy utility systems, but not as long as the big Utility Companies control the marketplace.

Bob Persons

Auburndale, MA 02466

Utility: Eversource

Comments: I'm a citizen energy coach for the City of Newton. Other citizens contact me for advice when they're considering rooftop solar. Many of them are not wealthy, but know what they need to do to preserve a habitable Earth for their grandchildren's generation. The SMART tariff is what enables them to do that with assurance that they're also making a responsible financial decision.

Beth Griffith

Dedham, MA 02026

Utility: Eversource

Comments: I had a client, that if they were able to go solar, it would have cut their utility bill by 66%. They paid their utility bills on-time for 2 years. However, they were unable to qualify for a solar loan. Solar needs to be accessible to ALL communities. Grants should be offered to families making below 100% of the AMI. Grants should also increase as AMI decreases. This is how the Commonwealth could make solar accessible to all.

Matthew Sirium

17 Pleasant Street, Greenfield MA 01301

Utility: Eversource

Comments: All people across the Commonwealth, from the rural Western side of the State to Boston and the Cape, must have equity in access to clean, renewable, solar energy. Let's make Massachusetts a national role model and the #1 leader in solar energy in the USA! Please do all you can to support this opportunity for our best, collective, future and a cleaner, sustainable, better Massachusetts. The time for this action is now.

Peter Hoffman

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483 Devon Road, Lee MA 01238

Utility: Eversource

Comments: When we were looking for a home in Berkshires, a south-facing roof was essential. We signed up for the Solarize Mass program in 2013 and our system went online in January 2014. The design of the program was critical in our decision making. At a time when the nation has seen oil spills from Ida and the latest spill off the California coast, we must do everything we can to get off of polluting fossil fuels. A fair incentive program can make a HUGE difference to the further adoption of solar in Massachusetts. Please do everything you can to grow solar here among ALL segments of our population.

Niles Busler

30 Main Street, Townsend MA 01469

Utility: Unitil

Comments: I am interested in installing Solar Panels on my house, using local talent (electrician) and retaining ownership. I did interview a national company, but found they were more interested in selling ancillary products and profits than distributing solar energy. I was also interested in solar battery backup, but that is not allowed by our electricity provider, and that has to change! A strong incentive to invest in a solar future should be a top priority for our legislature.

Israel Lederhendler

Falmouth, MA 02540

Utility: Eversource

Comments: I purchase my electricity through a 'green' supplier. It is delivered by Eversource and they charge more for the delivery than for the power I purchase. The State should develop green power sources for local use to minimize distribution challenges and develop its own power distribution systems. Power should not be controlled and provided by private for-profit entities.

Laurie Strubb

116 Mill Creek Drive, Ashby, MA 01431

Utility: Unitil

Russell Donnelly

22 Lantern Road, Framingham, MA 01702

Utility: Eversource

Judeth Van Hamm

Hull, MA 02045

Utility: Municipal

Susan Querze

9 W Hawley Street, Lawrence, MA 01843

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Tithi Dutta Roy

225 A Fallon Road, Apt 406, Stoneham, MA 02180

Utility: Eversource

David Carmack

1165 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02476

John Gau

Worcester, MA 01606

Utility: National Grid

Todd Atkins

71 Messenger Street, Plainville, MA 02762

Utility: National Grid

David Miller

93 Mozart Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Utility: Eversource

Richard Hassinger

10 Church Street, Newton, MA 02458

Utility: Eversource

Joe Roy

1 Rahway Road, Burlington, MA 01803

Utility: Eversource

Don Thompson

11 Blackstone Street, Apt 7, Cambridge, MA 02139

Utility: Eversource

Katherine Shutkin

5 Mitchell Grant Way, Bedford, MA 01730

Jenne Sindone

East Boston, MA 02128

S. Michel

Roxbury, MA 02119

Utility: Eversource

S. Robertson

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17 Grove Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545
Utility: Municipal

Ailsa Hermann-Wu

1306 Trapelo Road, Waltham, MA 02451

Kate Hermann-Wu

1306 Trepalo Road, Waltham, MA 02451

M. Lehman

33 Grattan Street, Chicopee, MA 01020
Utility: Municipal

John Schaechter

42 Will Drive, Unit 52, Canton, MA 02021

Stephen Adler

88 Masonic Home Road, Apt H107, Charlton, MA 01507

Raphael Sulkovitz

74 Hewlett Street, Roslindale, MA 02131
Utility: Eversource

Adam Nunes

2 Striper Circle, Dartmouth, MA 02747
Utility: Eversource

Kathleen McHendry

281 Chauncey Walker Street, Lot 105, Belchertown, MA 01007
Utility: National Grid

Elana Rose

Sharon, MA 02067

Gary Thaler

84 Bradstreet Avenue, Revere, MA 02151
Utility: National Grid

Margaret Rydant

335 Church Street, Northborough, MA 01532

Ken Canty

30 Center Road, Dudley, MA 01571

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Utility: National Grid

Mike McCool

48 Dorothy Road, Millbury, MA 01527

B. Tippens

68 Van Nuys Road, Colrain, MA 01340

Utility: Eversource

Barry Hart

244 Massachusetts Avenue, Apt 1, Arlington, MA 02474

Utility: Eversource

Judith Desoto Vega

Worcester, MA 01609

Utility: Eversource

James Richardson

52 Balls Hill Road, Concord, MA 01742

Utility: Municipal

Deborah Barolsky

159 Scituate Street, Arlington MA 02476

Stephanie Clark

135 Rice Corner Road, Brookfield MA 01506

Amy Henry

22 Perkins Avenue, Northampton MA 01060

Utility: Eversource

Michael Stone

10 Telegraph Hill Road, Falmouth MA 02540

Utility: Eversource

Peter Cutting

15 N Main Street, Charlton MA 01507

Utility: National Grid

Susan Lemont

90 Robbins Road, Arlington, MA 02475

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