

Bill Karrer
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**PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION**

18 September, 2019

Public Service Commission
Case 2019-00256
PO Box 605
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

Good Morning Commission Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to address The Commission concerning the implementation of SB100. As a new homeowner, whose home was designed and built to make the best use of solar power and indeed has a 30 panel, (soon to be 40), ground mount array, you can imagine that my wife, Karen, and myself are keenly interested in the rulings of this case.

I did considerable research concerning solar power and solar issues in planning the construction of our new home. In the final analysis, solar just made good economic sense. I am confident that other forms of self-generated electric power makes good economic sense for others in their various circumstances. When SB100 became law, I came to a realization.

It is time.

It is time that the electric utilities become de-regulated. With de-regulation, the “electric power generation playing field” will become self-leveling. Given that the electric utilities argue that private solar producers, (that would be people like my wife and myself), are an unfair burden on the balance of the rate payers, free us, so that we are no longer a burden. Allow us to make our own deal with any given utility or other third party provider or broker. I believe that we can stand on our own and market our excess energy to the “highest and best” bidder. We would probably be encouraged to overproduce in order to recoup our investment quicker.

How would this work, as we still have the question of the distribution network and the cost involved there? Pretty much the same way it worked, successfully, in Case 1991-00250. That case concerned telephone Area Calling Service which pretty much ushered in the de-regulation of phone services. Yes, at that time, there were lots of wires making up a massive communication system. Distribution of voice or distribution of electricity, they both have/had, many of the same challenges.

How would my excess solar generation get to the intended purchaser? It would work much the same way as Berkley Energy Group plans to deliver up to 100MWh of solar energy from Pikeville, Kentucky to the Toyota plant in Georgetown, Kentucky. They will use, mostly, existing distribution lines. In the industry, I believe that is called a “Power Purchase Agreement” or PPA. That is a whopper of an agreement! Us small producers, we would have a lot of smaller PPAs.

It was 28 years ago that I testified, in person, concerning Case 1991-00250 seeking Area Calling Service for Spencer County. As you may see, I am not a frequent contributor here. However, as a solar producer and a stakeholder in these proceedings, I felt compelled to bring my views forward. I realize that my solution may seem counter to what others are requesting. However, when one thinks about it, everyone is seeking what is fair, just from varying sets of eyes. With de-regulation, everyone gets to seek the deal fairest to them, from their viewpoint.

Finally, if the Commission desires, I am willing to testify, in person, to answer any questions concerning this proposal.

It was time then, it is time now.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Karrer", with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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