

Re: Rooftop Solar Net Metering
Case # 2019-00256

10/6/19

I have given much thought and examination to the rooftop solar issue, pros and cons. The pros FAR outweigh the cons, and the following are just a few of the most important factors:

Net-metered customers are keeping rates from going up because the power they send to the grid will send enough to keep utilities from having to build new power plants, for which we all pay with rate increases.

Solar often is connected with improved energy efficiency because home-owners, businesses, and non-profits that invest in solar also look at energy audits and invest in other energy efficiencies to reduce the number of panels needed.

Solar panels are most productive on sunny summer days, the times when energy costs are high and demand peaks. Utilities can avoid purchasing peak power or using expensive back-ups. Energy distributed from homes has a shorter distance to travel, so less energy is lost in the distribution process, thus also reducing wear and tear on the grid.

Importantly, since Ky. has one of the highest rates of asthma and other respiratory problems, solar reduces air pollution, thus improves public health and reduces threats to health and its costs.

As an adjunct PSC should support the right of the private solar industry, consumers, low-income, and environmental advocates to intervene in future rate cases including net-metering. In late 2018 PSC blocked the right of low-income and environmental advocacy groups to intervene on a proposed hike for KU/LGE, while allowing industrial entities like Kroger and Wal-Mart to have a say. What in the world?

Thank you for taking these ideas into your consideration
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