

Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Hettinger, Jr.
131 E Pioneer Ct.
Lebanon Junction, KY 40150

October 10, 2019
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Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard, Post Office Box 615
Frankfort, KY, 40602-0615
Re: Case No. 2019-00256

OCT 15 2019

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COMMISSION

Hello:

Our family has just spent about \$50,000 to change our fuel usage from fossil fuel to mostly solar. We are installing solar panels on the roof of the house and have purchased an electric vehicle. We have done this with money from savings, and we are fortunate that we have the savings to do that.

Investing in these changes means that we CAN, now, run our lives on sunshine (if we follow up by not using power from other sources, not buying things built by and of fossil fuel products or shipped across the country). This will take continued effort on our part.

But we are proud to be supporting other Salt River RECC members with our solar panels and the net metering. Our goal is to use as little electricity as possible so that we are providers as well as consumers. Our surplus (with others like us) is intended to help smooth out those peak electrical needs of our community that require the utilities to be able to produce maximum amounts of power. These maximums may seem to "require" using our "cheap" Kentucky coal. They also may seem to "require" building and maintaining facilities for centralized production.

Well, you can see several fallacies here, I hope. Here are three that jump out at me:

"Cheap" Kentucky coal has been produced on the backs of miners and coal workers and their communities for centuries, in a continuing abusive relationship.

The remaining "cheap" Kentucky coal is being gobbled by seemingly mindless corporations to sell at any means possible to any buyer regardless of the MASSIVE consequences of climate chaos from CO2 emissions bearing down on us.

The word "require" has more to do with habits and short-term profit at many levels of work than actual reality. Some of this is practically invisible, it is so ingrained. That's the world we live in.

Solar power is not "cheap," either. Our family has personally spent a considerable amount of our fiscal wealth to build infrastructure that benefits our communities much more than it benefits ourselves. After all, we are using electricity in our home that is no different than before. We are willing to be part of the work of creating distributed electrical power as part of the co-op.

Scaling distributed solar throughout the community becomes difficult when business-as-usual barriers are set up requiring individuals to do the work and invest in their systems and then not be treated fairly as part of the grid.

I think now is the time to continue to grow people-powered distributed systems and make all of this work fairly for our communal future. Solar net metering is one of the sensible forward-looking actions our utilities and communities can keep at the forefront of making our world a better place, which, I believe, is the prime goal of all our utility providers as well.

Thanks for all you do.

Maggie Hettinger
Frank H. Hettinger Jr.



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