



CHRIS HARRIS
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

COMMONWEALTH of KENTUCKY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

November 12, 2019

RECEIVED

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, KY 40601

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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

CASE NUMBER: 2019-00256.

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of those I represent in the 93rd House District, as well as anyone else who believes the commonwealth should have a strong solar industry, I am writing to request that the Kentucky Public Service Commission maintain current net-metering rules as much as possible. We should not rein in an industry just as it is beginning to make a substantial and positive impact on our economy and a growing number of our electric bills.

I fought against changing the law during this year's legislative session, and was disheartened when a promised compromise never materialized. Now that the law is set to take effect in January, many others and I are now doing all we can to minimize its negative effect on the state's fledgling solar industry.

The work these companies have done so far has been especially helpful to my region of Eastern Kentucky, which has been battered by steep declines in the coal industry and ever-increasing electric bills that, for some families, rival mortgage payments.

Solar addresses both concerns in welcome ways by adding needed jobs and giving families and businesses an energy alternative that is affordable and sustainable. This is not the threat that power conglomerates perceive them to be. On the contrary, it is playing an important role in providing electricity to the grid during peak usage.

I am sympathetic to the fixed costs that power companies have, but our electric bills already have fees in place to address those needs, and it must not be forgotten that the companies have a monopoly wherever their lines are located. We should not give them authority over the sun as well.

Other states have shown that solar and electric companies can both thrive, and that is the model we should seek here in Kentucky. If changes are to be made, I urge you to find a solution that maintains the growth we're seeing. My hope is that we don't look back years from now and realize too late just how much opportunity we lost.

Sincerely,

State Representative, 93rd District

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