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Kentucky Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Re: PSC Case No 2020-00350 LG&E Rate Request

I wish to comment on the request by LG&E to decrease the net metering credit for home solar installations. In September 2018 I installed and activated a solar power panel & converter system in my home. My logic was to do my share in slowing climate change induced by carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from my household through generation of emission free solar power, and to reduce expenses in my retirement years.

- Since that time, we have generated almost 3 MWh of power from our solar system.
- The cost of this equipment to us was \$29,300 including labor. We have 41 panels generating 300 watts each at full exposure. We did not get the widely publicized tax credit. So, this was the true out of pocket cost for us.
- LG&E's cost for our efforts was the net meter installed in the form of a special electric meter inserted where the previous electric meter was housed. For LG&E's net meter we are charged \$0.45/day or \$165.25/yr. Over the 25-year life of the system, LG&E will collect \$4,106 for this meter assuming no increase for the monthly meter charge. I assume their costs will be amply covered by their fees to us.
- It cost LG&E *zero capital expense*, because the infrastructure for our system was already there. The power lines, the line to our house, the meter box structure and the transmission capability in our local area – all of these things were already in place. All of these things will require the same maintenance we already pay for in our usage rate. And over the long haul if enough of the public goes solar (like all developers install solar on all new structures) then LG&E will undoubtedly reap enormous capital reduction requirements that would have gone to replacement generating capacity for the independent solar generation produced.
- Reducing the net metered credit to the low level proposed is counterproductive to taking advantage of the vast potential for private solar generation. Its actually a disincentive. Our little solar system will never provide the return on investment typically sought for capital investment in our economic system. In fact, we expect over the 25-year life of our system we will only recoup about \$7,125 (calculated using \$.095/kWh and 1 MWh/yr actual generation). And yet, it is something at least. So, LG&E wants us to give up about two-thirds of this measly payback.
- LG&E advertises its concern over climate change and is making commendable efforts to do its share to reduce increased CO2e emissions through solar and wind generated power. We hope this will continue. However, reducing the net power rebates to independent solar installations like mine is not the way forward. Might the PSC instead consider proposals to require all new construction to have at least some solar or wind generation. As a former LEED AP I used to certify US Green Building Council applications. Solar power is not rocket science, and if the PSC could provide incentives, a much larger participation rate could be achieved and save LG&E even greater amounts of future infrastructure expense by replacement with private investment in generation such as what I have done.

I urge the PSC to deny the net metering credit reductions. I would encourage the PSC to step up and develop a decision that actually goes the other way – encourages private independent investment in solar generation.

Sincerely,



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