From: Bruce Berk

Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 5:43 PM

To: PUC: Clerks Office < Clerks Office@puc.nh.gov>

Subject: Docket number DE 22-060

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August 18, 2024

Re: Docket number DE 22-060

Dear Committee Members,

I am asking the PUC to maintain the current net metering structure established in 2017 for at least the next two years. Although it is not the outcome I prefer, it is a reasonable compromise.

I have been following this "conversation" since 2020, have waded through the Dunsky report, and listened to testimony. An independent study by Clean Energy NH found a net BENEFIT to all consumers of expanded NEM programs through 2035. Local generation may even reduce electricity rates for all consumers.

The NH Saves: Program Highlights 2018-2020 executive summary notes the unqualified success of energy efficiency. During the program's lifetime enough energy has been saved to power over 535,000 houses for a year, that every dollar invested in energy efficiency has generated \$3.37 in benefits, and over 1.4 million projects were completed and nearly 3.4 million tons of CO2 were reduced.

Net metering promotes choice, will reduce energy cost, and will encourage local power usage rather than buying out of state energy. Why have NH residents pay the additional transmission cost of acquiring out of state energy when we can save costs by enabling utility companies the option of buying more local energy?

Clean Energy NH shares "NEM ensures that consumers have the right to generate some or all of their own electricity and be fairly compensated for excess energy they feed into the grid. This promotes energy market competition and customer choice. NEM allows

consumers to offset their energy consumption costs by generating their own renewable energy. Excess energy produced can be credited against future bills, leading to significant savings."

Moreover in a state that values local control, solar customers will have the ability to control their energy bills.

Not only does it promote long term savings to customers, but the 2021 NH Saves "debacle" reinforced that the solar industry creates a number of high paying jobs. Promoting net metering will promote the NH economy.

Finally, solar is a clean energy which has obvious climate and health benefits.

Thank you.

Bruce Berk