From: Craig Putnam

Sent: Sunday, August 18, 2024 11:14 AM

To: PUC: Clerks Office < ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment on Docket DE 22-060

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my view that the NEM credit extended to solar PV owners not be reduced. I have had solar PV at my home since 2016 (so I'm still under NEM 1.0). I would not have installed it had net metering not been part of the financial considerations. Further reducing NEM payments will have a devastating effect on the future of distributed energy resources (DER) – which of course is one of the reasons the incumbent utilities would like to see it go away.

Net metering has a positive impact for all customers, including those who do not have solar PV. It helps to reduce transmission losses and grid congestion and encourages the efficient utilization of renewable energy resources. As noted above, it encourages distributed energy generation, but it can also reduce the peak load that must be generated by centralized power plants – and reducing peak load helps to save everyone money. It has many other benefits as well: it helps small customers to save money, it leads to the creation of skilled, good-paying jobs – the list goes on...

NH should do everything possible to encourage the further adoption of renewable and other forms of non-fossil fuel energy overall as quickly as possible. We do not have the luxury of continuing to take decades to implement grid upgrades as has been past practice.

I recognize that, as things stand, distributed energy resources such as solar PV are not a complete solution; they are not always available. Therefore, incorporation of dispatchable grid-scale energy storage is a necessary part of the formula for increasing amounts of generation such as solar PV. The continued use of nuclear power is also appropriate as a stopgap answer for base-load generation until more dispatchable energy storage is available. But nuclear should be seen as a temporary solution until such time as there is a viable solution for dealing with the highly toxic waste.

Please do not backpedal on the NEM program. We need it to be healthy and strong. Thank you for listening.

Regards, Craig Putnam