

FILE

From: "Tom Rapini"
 To: "ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us"
 Subject: Renewable energy systems
 Sent: 3/18/2007 12:01:50 PM
 Message:

05-1500-EL-COI

Tom Rapini
 5947 Hopkins Rd.
 Mentor, OH 44060

3-17-07

Alan Schriber, Chairman
 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

I understand that the PUCO is finalizing standards for home based renewable energy systems. Please consider my comments regarding ANNUAL-ZEROING of net metering customers that I sent to you in a Feb. 24, 2006 email (below).

Allowing home-based photovoltaic systems to continually run their meter backwards through the summer months to offset the shortages they will experience in the cloudy winter months is essential to allow for the systems to be reasonably sized and affordable. Realize that current net-metering home systems are essentially "zeroed" every month and the homeowners get only a small wholesale credit for any surplus power they generate. If annual-zeroing were in place, they could carry surpluses into the winter months instead of having to buy additional photovoltaics to meet winter electric demands. The inverse (winter carried over to summer) would generally apply with home wind systems.

Small rule changes like this will further encourage home renewable systems. This also clearly benefits the utilities. Renewable systems, especially photovoltaic systems, provide distributed generation and reduce the peak summer loads that utilities are forced to deal with.

I also wish to encourage the PUCO to consider a Renewable Portfolio Standard be applied to encourage utilities to pursue large scale development of our state's solar and wind power potential.

Thank you,

Tom Rapini

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
 2007 MAR 19 AM 9:41
 PUCO

----- Original Message -----

From: Tom Rapini
 To: ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us
 Cc: GEO, Erika ; GEO, Coin, Dick ; GEO, Greenfield, Michelle ; GEO, Christina ; GEO, Bill ; GEO, Godwin, Aaron ; GEO, Miller, Fletcher (home)
 Sent: Friday, February 24, 2006 4:09 PM
 Subject: Comments for docket 05-1500-EL-COI

PUCO
 Docket Number 05-1500-EL-COI

Comments on Net Metering

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
 Technician TH Date Processed 3-19-07

I am a net metering customer of First Energy, with approximately 800 watts of photovoltaic and 500 watts of wind generating capacity grid synchronized via a 4000 watt Trace 4024 inverter. I intend to expand my

generating capacity this year.

I have two comments regarding the Ohio Net Metering program as it is currently implemented.

First and foremost, I encourage the PUCO to require utility "zeroing" of the balance of output from net metering customers to be done ANNUALLY. In other words, allow us to continue to accrue a negative balance in the summer months when solar output is at its peak and apply that to the winter months when we are more likely to be drawing power in from the grid (or visa versa with wind power). This first will allow net metering customers to focus on either solar or wind generation instead of having to have both to try to satisfy both summer and winter electricity needs. Second, annual zeroing will almost surely result in an increased investment in photovoltaic capacity by net metering customers which will in turn help the utilities meet peak power demands on hot sunny summer days.

Second, I was a bit surprised at having to pay First Energy \$250 for the permit to net meter. My installation required no meter change and to my knowledge no First Energy official ever came out to observe my system. Certainly there were office costs associated with this, but I question whether those costs justified a \$250 permit fee. Perhaps there are more utility costs than I am aware of. Please investigate this if necessary.

I apologize for sending this late, I was not aware of this hearing until after the comment period had closed.

Thank you

Tom Rapini
5947 Hopkins Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
440-257-2673

----- Original Message -----

From: ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us

To: tom@tingsys.com

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2006 4:17 PM

February 23, 2006

Tom Rapini
5947 Hopkins Rd
Mentor, OH 44060

CASE ID: TRAP022306G3

Dear Mr. Rapini:

Thank you for contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) regarding Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI) and net metering. I have reviewed the issue you raised and my findings are below.

In your e-mail you stated that you had just learned of the opportunity to make contact on the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005. You asked if there was still time to submit comments for consideration.

The PUCO will be hosting a Net Metering Technical Conference on Friday February 24 from 8am to 3pm. The conference will be held in hearing room 11E at 180 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215. The conference will also be web cast live on the PUCO website at www.PUCO.ohio.gov. Additionally, the docket for this issue is currently open. If you would like to submit comments to the

PUCO for consideration regarding this issue, you may do so in writing or by e-mail. The specific case docket number is 05-1500-EL-COI.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have further questions regarding this issue, please call me at 1-800-686-7826. For more information regarding the PUCO, visit us on the web at www.PUCO.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Christina Rodman
Customer Service Investigator
Service Monitoring and Enforcement Department