



Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

64th Montana Legislature

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SONJA NOWAKOWSKI, Lead Staff
TODD EVERTS, Staff Attorney
NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

August 25, 2016

TO: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC)

FR: ETIC staff

RE: Net Metering Draft Report and Draft Legislation Public Comment

At the July ETIC meeting, the committee requested five bill drafts related to updating portions of Montana's framework for net metering. Three of the drafts focus on interconnection requirements and metering technology. Two of the drafts focus on broader net metering policy issues. The committee also agreed to a draft net-metering report that includes a series of findings and recommendations.

The report and legislation was out for public comment from July 25 to August 25.

A request for comment was posted on the ETIC Listserv and notice was sent in a news release. The ETIC received a number of form letters and comments on the legislation. Because of the volume of letters, they are not included in the mailing. If you would like hard copies, let me know. All public comment received is posted on the ETIC Website at www.leg.mt.gov/etic.

The information posted for public comment included:

- LC NET1 - Require Public Service Commission (PSC) review of interconnection.
- LC NET2 - Eliminate the electrical licensing exemption for grid-tied generators.
- LC NET3 - Update the PSC's role in reviewing net metering technologies and standards.
- LC NET4 - Require the PSC to review net metering rates under certain circumstances and update related rates and tariffs.
- LC NET5 - Increase the net metering cap to 250 kW for tax-exempt properties.
- *Net Metering In Montana - A Report to the 65th Legislature*

Overall the comments supported the ETIC's efforts to find middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates. The comments stated support for ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by updating standards. While the comments did not directly mention LC NET1 or LC NET3, both drafts are focused on safety issues and updates, and it is assumed by staff that the comments were directed at the draft legislation.

The general comments focused on supporting the solar industry in Montana and creating market certainty for solar. Comments also included general support for LC NET4, assuming existing customers were grandfathered into the existing rate structure. Support for the 1% trigger for a review by the PSC also was stated in the comments.

On LC NET5, comments noted support for allowing larger capacity net metered systems for tax exempt properties, but concerns were raised that other entities were excluded. The ETIC was encouraged to lift the existing 50 kW cap for all customers.

One comment also was made about the existing 12-month billing period used by utilities and the roll over of credits to utilities in current law. One comment also raised concerns about LC NET2, and noted support for allowing homeowners to install PV systems on their property.

Staff will provide an overview of the comments during the meeting, but at this time staff has not been able to fully review all the comments received.

During the September meeting, the ETIC will need to determine if changes should be made to the report or if changes should be made to the draft legislation. The ETIC then can determine whether to bring the draft legislation before the 2017 Legislature.

Sonja Nowakowski



VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 25, 2016
Sonja Nowakowski
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

RE: Comments on Draft Legislation

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC) of the Montana Legislature prepared and posted for public comment a series of draft legislation and related reports. ETIC has proposed draft legislation on a variety of net metering issues and requested specific comment on:

LC NET1 – Require PSC review of interconnection

LC NET2 – Eliminate electrical licensing exemption for grid-tied generators

LC NET3 – Update PSC’s role in reviewing net metering technologies

LC NET4 – Require PSC review of net metering rates under certain circumstances

LC NET5 – Increase net metering cap for tax-exempt properties

The Alliance for Solar Choice (TASC) leads advocacy to protect consumers’ ability to choose the source of their electricity across the country. Founded by the nation’s largest rooftop solar companies, TASC maintains a diverse membership of national and local installers, including Geostellar, Inc., LGCY Power, REPOWER by Solar Universe, SunTime Energy, Sunrun, Lightwave Solar, Palmetto Solar, Sunvest Solar Inc., Convergence Energy, HH Solar, Rising Sun Solar and Electric, Horizon Solar Power, Sun Peak, Premier Solar Solutions, and Delta Energy + Design. Many of these companies and their partners are leading distributed energy resource (DER) service providers, are responsible for tens of thousands of residential, school, government and commercial DER installations in various states, and collectively employ thousands of Americans. TASC’s members are committed to ensuring Montana’s citizens have a viable choice in energy providers that offer near-term, low-cost, and customer-based solutions to integrate renewable energy resources and improve operational efficiencies. As the ETIC Staff itself acknowledges, “[r]emoving obstacles to qualified innovators in Montana’s energy industry – letting the free market work – will be critical to our shared goal of ensuring low cost, reliable and clean power is generated here in Montana for distribution to near and far markets in the

coming decades.”¹ These solutions will help preserve the health of the DER industry and benefit the public interest at large.

TASC has reviewed the proposed legislation and respectfully submits the following comments.

LC NET 1

This bill would establish a requirement that the Public Service Commission (PSC) biennially review and update interconnection standards for net metering systems. While TASC supports periodic review and update of interconnection standards, TASC also believes that a regular interconnection review should apply to all systems connecting to the grid and not just net metering systems.

The distribution grid has seen a recent influx of various distribution-connected resources like electric vehicles, distribution-connected generation, battery storage etc. An accurate interconnection review reflects system-wide grid conditions since the impact of interconnecting systems are interdependent. To isolate a certain class of customers based on solar adoption, may create a review that is misinformed and therefore cause an adverse impact on grid reliability. Therefore, TASC recommends that the bill be modified so the PSC biennially review and update interconnection standards for all systems connecting to the distribution grid.

TASC does not object to the imposition of one-time interconnection fees that are minimal and rooted in actual costs of interconnection. We recommend that if the PSC imposes interconnection fees, these fees should be supported by actual cost data limited to: processing and administrative costs, distribution engineering costs, and metering installation/inspection and commissioning costs.

LC NET3

This bill would direct the PSC to evaluate alternative metering technologies for customers based on grid operability, reliability, and billing considerations. While TASC supports the PSC’s review of metering technologies, the language in this bill suggests that there is a need to adopt a departure from current metering norms. Current bidirectional meters register the bidirectional flow of electricity measure and record total net usage, which is the difference between the amounts of energy a customer generates and the amount of energy consumed at the property. Bidirectional meters are sufficient for the purpose of net metering because they provide the “net produce,” the energy usage that the customer will receive credit for.

The production meter is a standard meter that records the output of the solar panel and accrual of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) and is not used on its own for billing purposes. Requiring customers to use production meters in addition to bidirectional meters, might be an expensive and unwarranted exercise. Production meters record generation output and are necessary in some cases, for instance in jurisdictions that provide production-based incentives or track system generation for Renewable Portfolio Standard compliance. In the absence of both needs, it is unnecessary to impose additional metering costs and requirements on customers.

¹ *Net Metering in Montana: A Report to the 65th Legislature*, Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (September 2016).

Indeed, Freeing the Grid's *Best Practices in State Net Metering Policies and Interconnection Procedures* finds that “[r]etail electric customer utilizing net metering must not be required to purchase new metering equipment. Smart metering and other digital technology for energy management should be made available by the utility to solar and other customers on a non-discriminatory and open-access basis.”²

Additionally, the imposition of unnecessary production meters raise privacy and data sharing concerns. Production meters give utilities access to data regarding solar production and customer consumption. A bidirectional meter, in contrast, provides the utility with access to “customary” data required to calculate the monthly utility bill. Production meters installed along with bidirectional meters expose consumers to unnecessary risks by allowing utilities to collect massive amounts of smart meter-related data unnecessary for billing purposes.

LC NET4

This bill would require (1) PSC review of net metering programs under certain circumstances; (2) a utility to conduct a cost-benefit study; and (3) the grandfathering of existing customer-generators. TASC strongly cautions against using a cost of service analysis (Section 1 of legislation) to evaluate net metering and recommends using a cost benefit approach better suited to demand-side resources. Unlike a cost-benefit study, a cost of service analyses does not consider the benefits DG provides to ratepayers and the utility. The categories of both system and societal costs that DG can avoid to various degrees include energy production, environmental compliance, transmission, distribution, generation capacity, operations and maintenance, fuel hedging, and renewable portfolio standard compliance costs. Nearly every independent benefit-cost study of net metering recently conducted has reached the conclusion that rooftop solar is a benefit to all ratepayer.³

TASC believes that where a PSC endeavors to undertake a cost-benefit analysis of net metering, such an analysis:

- Consider NEM exports only (protect on-site consumption);
- Be conducted by independent third party;
- Consider all benefits of net metering;

² *Best Practices in State Net Metering Policies and Interconnection Procedures*, Freeing the Grid (2015), available at: <http://freeingthegrid.org/#education-center/best-practices/>.

³ Recent Commission-led studies that demonstrate distributed generation is a benefit to ratepayers include: Nevada, available at:

http://puc.nv.gov/About/Media_Outreach/Announcements/Announcements/7/2014_-_Net_Metering_Study/;

Maine, available at: <https://mpuc-cms.maine.gov/CQM.Public.WebUI/Common/CaseMaster.aspx?CaseNumber=2014-00171>;

Mississippi, available at:

http://www.psc.state.ms.us/InsiteConnect/InSiteView.aspx?model=INSITE_CONNECT&queue=CTS_ARCHIVEQ&docid=337867;

Vermont, available at: http://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/psd/files/Topics/Renewable_Energy/Net_Metering/Act%20125%20Study%2020130115%20Final.pdf;

and Missouri, available at: <http://moenergy.org/images/Net%20Metering%20%20in%20Missouri%202015%201.pdf>

- Analyze multiple sensitivities, including: Total Resource Cost (TRC), Ratepayer Impact Measure, and Participating customers; and
- Take a long-term view consistent with the useful life of the net metered system.

Furthermore, TASC recommends that a review of the costs and benefits of net energy billing systems include but not be limited to a quantification of:

- avoided utility energy purchases, including at peak demand hours;
- avoided transmission and distribution line losses;
- avoided generation capacity investments or purchases, in particular, impacts on capacity market requirements and pricing;
- avoided transmission and distribution capacity investments;
- avoided pollution control costs;
- changes in land use effects and right of way costs; and
- changes in the electricity grid's resilience.

TASC also strongly supports the grandfathering clause in the legislation. This clause provides clarity and certainty to current and future customers interconnecting net metered systems and incentivizes the installation net-metered systems. Without grandfathering, solar customers whose long-term investments may be adversely impacted are highly unlikely to recommend a solar investment to their friends and neighbors, and they may be unable to sustain the higher utility bills that they must pay if they continued to operate their systems. These outcomes are clearly contrary to the goals for the development of renewable DG expressed in the ETIC's Net Metering Report.

LC NET5

This bill would increase the system net metering cap for tax-exempt customer generators from 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts. TASC has no objections to this draft legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ S. Becca Polisuk

S. Becca Polisuk

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On behalf of The Alliance for Solar Choice



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August 25, 2016

Rep. Keith Regier, Chairman
Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee
Legislative Services Division
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Chairman Regier and Members of the Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee,

On behalf of the members and directors of the Montana Renewable Energy Association (“MREA”), I would like to thank you for the attention you’ve given to solar policies over the past year and a half. The net metering study undertaken by the Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee (“ETIC”) has brought to light important information about the economic benefits of private solar installations in Montana, identified areas for improvement in the statute, and compelled stakeholders to sit down together and work towards common ground.

The draft net metering report is a thorough, useful, and informative resource. The package of net metering bills requested by ETIC represents a modest yet constructive step forward. While the draft bills don’t reflect the full scope of net metering reforms MREA has advocated for, they would help create much needed regulatory certainty for Montana’s growing solar industry. The bills give solar consumers assurance that their investment in a private net metering system is secure, and open up new opportunities for energy savings at our military bases, schools, and local governments by raising the net metering system cap for tax exempt properties.

Please consider the following comments and recommended changes pertaining to several of the draft net metering bills before this committee.

LCNET3

LCNET3 is one of three bills drafted by ETIC to fulfill the intent of “General Agreements on Policy Changes” identified by MREA and NorthWestern Energy in a letter¹ submitted to ETIC prior to the Committee’s July 14-15 meeting. LCNET3 was drafted based on the agreement between MREA and NorthWestern that, “The [Montana Public Service Commission] should evaluate alternative

¹ Corcoran, Patrick and Ben Brouwer. 2016. Letter from stakeholders to Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee. Available at: <http://leg.mt.gov/content/Committees/Interim/2015-2016/Energy-and-Telecommunications/Meetings/July-2016/sj12-stakeholder-letter.pdf>

metering technologies for customers based on grid operability, reliability, and billing considerations.” LCNET3 refers only to reviewing metering technology of “customer generators;” however, the agreement between MREA and NorthWestern called for a review applying more broadly, to metering technology of all “customers.” MREA recommends broadening the scope of LCNET3 such that it directs the Montana Public Service Commission (“Commission”) to evaluate alternative metering technologies for all customers, not just net metering customers alone. The privacy concerns of customers, with regard to metering on-site energy production and consumption, should also be taken under consideration by the Commission in the course of this analysis.

LCNET4

LCNET4, which triggers a cost-benefit study of net metering and grandfathers existing customer generators under future changes to the rate classifications of net metering customers, creates a path forward on this issue for the solar industry, utilities, customer generators, and other utility customers. MREA supports the passage of LCNET4 contingent on a series of recommended amendments noted below.

Grandfathering customer generators under future changes to the rate structure of net metering is appropriate; such a measure would acknowledge and protect the significant economic investment individuals have made under the parameters provided by the current statute and rate structure governing net metering. The grandfathering clause of this bill is also consistent with one of the “General Agreements in Principle” identified by NorthWestern and MREA², which reads, “Grandfather existing net metering customers under any new policy for an appropriate period of time to protect customer’s original economic bargain”.

The trigger for a net metering cost-benefit study is another important element of LCNET4. By setting the trigger at a level when net metering production reaches one percent of utility retail sales, the Legislature allows adequate time for the Commission to establish a methodology for the study, and for NorthWestern and other stakeholders to begin collecting the detailed data that will be required for this study. The one percent threshold allows for a reasonable level of private solar investment before the regulatory structure of net metering is re-considered, however the threshold is also low enough to ensure that alternative rate structures are considered before net metering reaches high levels of market saturation.

Triggering a cost-benefit study at one percent of retail sales is consistent with guidance provided in the draft National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners *Manual on Distributed Energy Resources Compensation*.³ The NARUC guide explains,

For the jurisdictions with low DER penetration and growth, there is time to plan and take the appropriate steps and avoid unnecessary policy reforms simply to follow suit with actions

² Corcoran and Brouwer, 2016.

³ National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, 2016. *NARUC Manual on Distributed Energy Resources Compensation*. Draft document available at: <http://pubs.naruc.org/pub/88954963-0F01-F4D9-FBA3-AC9346B18FB2>

other jurisdictions have taken. Reforms that are rushed and not well thought out could set policies and implement rate design mechanisms that have unintended consequences such as potentially discouraging customers from investing in DER resources, or making inefficient investments in DER.⁴

The NARUC Manual includes a diagram (Figure 1) from a U.S. Department of Energy laboratory study that illustrates distribution system investments and changing market platforms relative to customer adoption of distributed energy resources (“DER”).⁵ The authors observe that for most utilities, the step from Stage 1 (low DER adoption) to Stage 2 (medium to high DER adoption) takes place when the aggregate generating capacity of DERs represents five percent of a utility’s peak load. For comparison MREA estimates the aggregate generating capacity of net metering systems would represent approximately four percent of NorthWestern’s projected peak load when generation of net metering systems reaches one percent of NorthWestern’s sales.

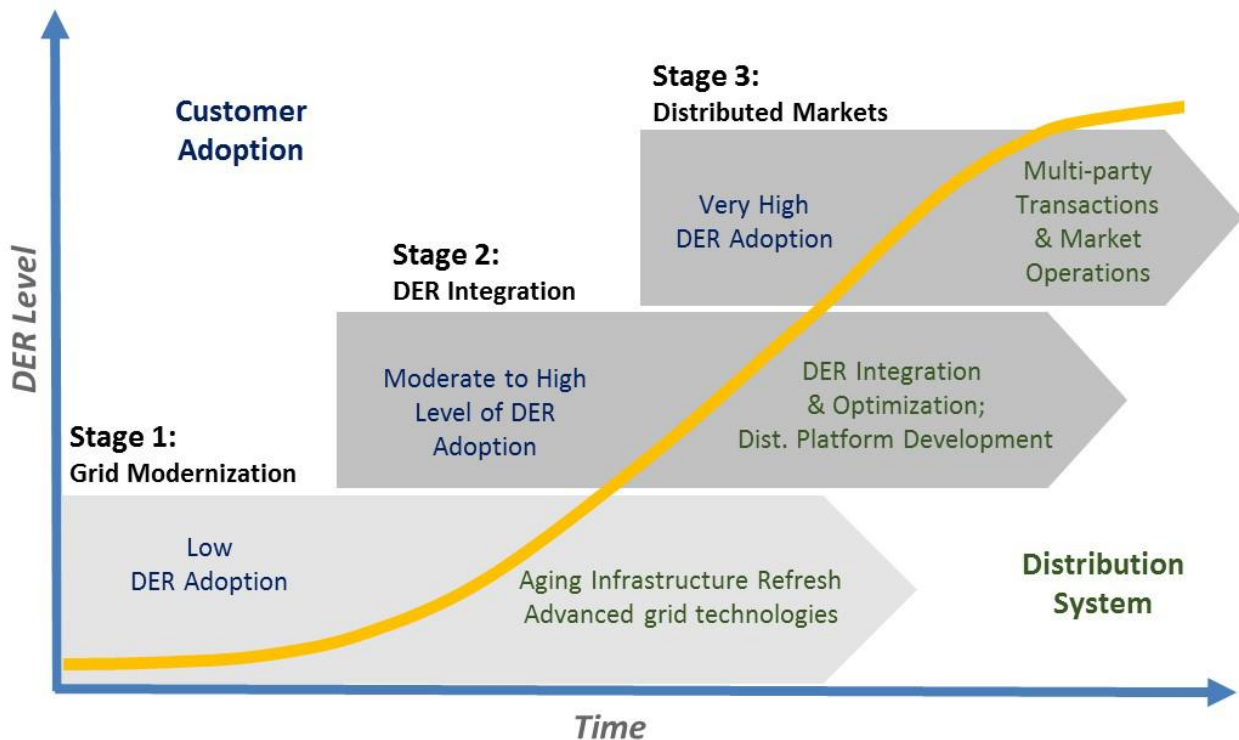


Figure 1. Distribution system evolution relative to customer adoption of distributed energy resources. *Source: De Martini and Kristov, 2015.*

In other words, the one percent trigger for a study, as required by LCNET4, would take place before DER adoption in NorthWestern’s service territory reached a stage potentially requiring modifications to the market structure of net metering.

⁴ NARUC, 2016, page 62.

⁵ De Martini, Paul and Lorenzo Kristov, 2015. *Distribution systems in a high distributed energy resources future.* Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy. Available at: https://emp.lbl.gov/sites/all/files/FEUR_2%20distribution%20systems%2020151023_1.pdf

The Commission analysis of net metering costs and benefits triggered by LCNET4 should account for all relevant benefits of net metering systems over the useful life of net metering systems, including but not limited to:

- avoided energy purchase and generation costs;
- avoided transmission and distribution line losses;
- avoided generation capacity investments and energy capacity purchases;
- avoided transmission and distribution capacity investments;
- environmental benefits, including avoided pollution control and compliance costs;
- excess net metering credits sacrificed to the utility by customer generators; and,
- unclaimed Bonneville Power Administration residential exchange credits.

The study should consider costs and benefits from the perspective of utilities, society, and utility customers, including participating and non-participating ratepayers. The study and any changes to the net metering rate structure anticipated as a result of the study, must not impact the ability of customer-generators to produce and consume power on-site, behind the meter.

LCNET4 amendments

MREA recommends several changes to LCNET4 in order to make terminology consistent throughout the draft bill, and to avoid redundancies within the statute.

1. Replace “Cost of service analysis” (title of section 1) with “Cost-benefit study.”
2. Section 1(1)(a) should be edited to read, “~~the value~~ costs and benefits of generation from net metering systems...”
3. The methodology of net metering cost benefit studies has often been contested in other states that undertake this type of analysis. To clarify the agreed upon methodology of the study at the outset of this analysis in Montana, section 1(2)(a)(i) should be edited to read, “establish the methodology of, and information required for inclusion in a cost-benefit study conducted by a public utility in accordance with subsection (3);”
4. To ensure consistency in terminology throughout the bill, section 1(3)(a) should be edited to read, “conduct a study of the costs and benefits of ~~customer-generators~~ generation from net metering systems...”
5. It may be useful for the Commission to consult an independent authority with experience in similar net metering studies for the purpose of establishing an appropriate methodology for the study. Section 1(4) should be edited to read, “In the proceeding, the commission may engage independent consultants or advisory services to establish the methodology of a cost-benefit study, pursuant to subsection (2), and to evaluate a public utility’s cost-benefit study.”
6. Section 5(3)(a) is confusing given the inclusion of new language in section 1(1)(b), which provides for the commission to create a separate rate class for customer-generators. Section 5(3)(a) should be edited to read, “A public utility shall charge customer-generators a

minimum monthly fee that is the same as other customers of the public utility in the same rate class.”

7. Section 5(3)(b) and section 5(3)(c) are redundant given the language in section 1, and should be deleted. Both sections of the bill outline the process for conducting a cost-benefit study and making a determination of whether customer-generators should be served in a new rate class.

LCNET5

MREA supports a higher net metering system cap for all customers who are unable to meet their energy needs with an on-site generator of 50 kilowatts or smaller. However, we view raising the cap to 250 kilowatts for only tax exempt properties as a constructive step, and we support the passage of LCNET5. The larger system installations will provide increased revenue to Montana-based solar businesses, electricians, and the many subcontractors employed by this energy sector, while increasing the ability of schools, military bases, local governments and other tax exempt entities to control their energy costs with on-site generation.

Thank you for considering these comments and recommended changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben P. Brouwer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ben Brouwer

Policy Director

Montana Renewable Energy Association

August 23, 2016

Legislative Services Division
ATTN: Sonja Nowakowski
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

RECEIVED

AUG 25 2016

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to the members of the Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee about the Committee's recommendations on Montana's net-metering rules and regulations.

As I sit at my desk this afternoon, I can smell smoke from numerous forest fires close-by. The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has completely shut down all recreation on the Yellowstone River due to a new parasite. Fishing on the Big Hole River is closed until further notice. "Hoot owl" restrictions are the norm on Montana's streams and river.

Scientists predicted these manifestations of global warming 25 years ago. They told us forest fires would be more numerous, burn hotter, become harder to control, and explode more rapidly, become more dangerous for homeowners and for the men and women fighting them. The winter snows don't hold the moisture they used to and leave the mountains earlier.

Our cold water fisheries are atrophying and dying as the fish succumbed to new diseases and the rivers and streams warm and grow shallow.

We have done nothing for the past 25 years to deal with climate change, and we are approaching very dangerous tipping points. You are making decisions today that will affect our next 25 years.

I urge you to do all that you can to move us away from fossil fuels and toward clean renewable energy from Montana's vast wind and solar resources.

Because solar and wind power are so critical to fighting runaway climate change, the Committee should get rid of arbitrary limits on the size of renewable energy projects and improve incentives for residential customers, neighborhoods, and communities that install solar panels and wind generators. The Montana Legislature should encourage the expansion of solar and wind power as rapidly as possible.

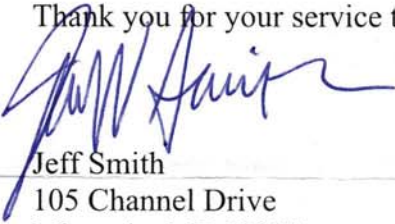
If the Committee is reforming net-metering rules for Montana, it should:

- provide solid incentives and regulatory certainty for Montana's growing solar industry,

- assure people who install solar panels that their investment will pay itself back quickly and the industry will grow,
- open up new opportunities for cutting greenhouse gases, installing clean renewable energy, and providing energy savings in commercial and public buildings.

Our climate demands that we make the transition to carbon-free energy. You can make a big difference by encouraging this transition.

Thank you for your service to your fellow citizens.



Jeff Smith
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Missoula, MT 59804
(406) 880-8320

Missoula, MT 59804-1704
P.O. Box 201704
ATTN: Sonja Nowakowski
Legislative Services Division
August 25, 2016

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;

- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;

- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;

- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.

However, improvements could be made:

- o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law.

All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Kathie Daviau
216 Lexington Drive
Billings, MT 59102

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

Thank you for your hard work in our legislature. I know how difficult that job can be and sincerely appreciate your dedication to the public benefit.

I recently moved to Montana primarily because of the incredible beauty, ranchland, open spaces, and natural resources. I am building a passive solar home, taking advantage of a south facing slope, abundant sunshine and wind to power my home as efficiently as possible and reduce my personal carbon footprint.

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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If our nation adopted a price on carbon, such as the market-based, revenue neutral Citizens' Climate Lobby's Carbon Fee and Dividend national legislative proposal, all of us

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Deborah Muth
39 Lightning Lane
Red Lodge, MT 59068

(406) 446-9850

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

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Renee Evanoff
342 Rock Creek Road
Emigrant, MT 59027

406 223-5224

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;

- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;

- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;

- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.

However, improvements could be made:

- o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law.

All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Karen Peterson
3015 Parkhill Drive
Billings, MT 59102

(406) 652-4379

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Bob Hilten
PO Box 1107
Columbus, MT 59019

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Jason Wiener
1122 Jackson St
Missoula, MT 59802

(406) 542-3232

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

Dear Committee members,

As a small solar energy generator I support the right to generate clean renewable energy for myself and my neighbors. I not only support the community, but I support Northwestern Energy by supplying clean power to them without line costs, though of course with net metering I don't get credited for those savings (In fact, I installed an outlet on the street to give free power to anyone who wants it!) And to make matters worse, NWE keeps saying that I am ripping off my neighbors. We need to make this system fair!

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

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All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Tim Holmes
446 N. Hoback St.

Helena, MT 59601

406-442-4233

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Barbara Gulick
2018 12th St. West
Billings, MT 59102

(406) 259-3622

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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Climate change is real and it is happening now. Montana trout streams are suffering low flows and elevated temperatures. News reports are constantly telling us of major floods, damage and deaths. We need support for every approach that reduces our consumption of fossil fuels.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

John Woodland
580 River Bend Rd
Superior, MT 59872

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support the enclosed, and I'd like to see those that cannot afford to build their own solar panels and other expensive equipment to get state support from a kitty out of this endeavor.

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

William Crain
711 1/2 Terry Ave
Billings, MT 59101

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

arthur beckes
39760 Mission Crk. Rd.
St. Ignatius, MT 59865

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

joy larsen-mcevans
121 N. Yellowstone St.
livingston, MT 59047

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Alicia Pettys
3013 7th Ave N
Billings, MT 59101

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

June Persons
142 Otter Creek Rd
Ashland, MT 59003

59003

Keith Regier
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Rep. Regier

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All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Hannah Hostetter
918 1/2 N 31st St
Unit D
Billings, MT 59101



To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC) and Legislative Services staff
Sonja Nowakowski

From: Northern Plains Resource Council's Clean Energy Task Force

Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016

Subject: Comments on LC NET1- LC NET5

Northern Plains Resource Council supports customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use through net metering. We believe distributed renewable energy benefits all Montanans by allowing individuals to invest in their energy future and save money on their electric bills, reducing transmission and distribution costs for utilities, providing grid services and grid stability, and creating good-paying local jobs. Thank you to the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee for studying this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. We hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

Northern Plains supports the following principles in this legislation:

- ***Creating market certainty*** for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- ***Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering*** when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales, meaning the cost to taxpayers of a PSC study of the benefits and costs of net metering at this time would exceed any potential impact to NorthWestern Energy customers. We believe it is prudent to wait until more data is available;
- ***Protecting the investment of existing customers*** by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- ***Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals*** by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.

However, improvements could be made to the draft legislation. In LC NET5, while the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, ***it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law***. We believe that the legislature is better advised to increase the net metering cap for all customer classes. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and the law should not pick winners and losers.



Additionally, the new language in LC NET1 is redundant with the current MCA requirements. If interconnection requirements are required to match those established by the national electrical code, national electrical safety code, institute of electrical and electronic engineers, and underwriters laboratories (MCA Section 69-8-604 (1)), which are updated annually, then the Public Service Commission should already be undertaking an annual or biennial review of Montana interconnection standards and updating them to reflect changes in the national electrical code.

The more important issue that the legislature could address is providing up-to-date training for all qualified installers and registered electricians in Montana who are performing the interconnections. The sections of the national electrical code on solar installation are the fastest growing area of electrical code; public utilities could provide training on new developments through the existing Qualified Installer certification program. This would help ensure that the workforce is well-trained on the most up-to date national standards.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Gulick".

Ed Gulick

Chair, Clean Energy Task Force of Northern Plains Resource Council

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Aimee Grmoljez <agrmoljez@crowleyfleck.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 4:51 PM
To: LEG Response
Cc: Nowakowski, Sonja; Mike Green
Subject: Net metering and Colstrip Comments

Dear Sonja and ETIC,

Montana Dakota Utilities appreciates the Committee's focus on net metering and Montana's energy future during this interim. Montana Dakota submits the following concerns about some of the Committee's proposals:

LC NET4 would create a numerical threshold at which the Public Service Commission must evaluate whether a separate class should be created for net-metering customers. Montana Dakota is not opposed to creating a numerical trigger. However, as drafted, the bill appears to eliminate the Commission's ability to address issues that might arise before that trigger is met. Montana Dakota requests the Committee strike the portion of the bill that would limit the Commission's current authority to consider a cost/benefit analysis and other supporting details in regard to minimum bills, separate class, etc. at any time that information is presented to them by the utility or MCC.

LC NET5 increases the net metering cap from 50 kW to 250 kW for customers exempt from tax under § 15-6-201, MCA. That section provides exemptions for a broad range of governmental and charitable organizations, including, school districts, hospitals, municipalities, and irrigation districts. Montana Dakota is concerned about this increase. Given the relatively small loads on MDU's distribution circuits, the fluctuations on a circuit created by introduction of a customer generator of 250 kW could have a significant impact on reliability.

LC COL3 and 4- Montana Dakota is supportive of the notion of creating a fund to mitigate the impact on local communities from the closure of natural resource related businesses. However, Montana Dakota does not believe that effort should be tied to a targeted tax increase on electrical generation. Further, Montana Dakota opposes the proposal in LC COL4 to increase Montana's electrical energy producer's license tax by forty-five percent. As a regulated utility, the tax increase will be directly passed on to Montana Dakota's customers, who do not receive power from Colstrip and who are unlikely to see any benefit from the grant program it is intended to fund as written. Further, LC COL4 is counterproductive to the other goals outlined in the other LCs being considered by the Committee, because it will increase the cost of generation at MDU's coal-fired Lewis and Clark generating station.

Kind regards,
Aimee Grmoljez

Sent from my iPad

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406-252-3441, SO THAT OUR ADDRESS RECORD CAN BE CORRECTED.

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Nowakowski, Sonja

From: skywestmtn@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, August 07, 2016 10:46 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: NET METERIN IN MONTANA
Attachments: NWE.pdf

DEAR MS. SONJA NOWAKOWSKI

Attached my response to " NET METERIN IN MONTANA".

Please let me know what time ,and where on September 8-9 , the meeting in regard to NET METERING IN MONTANA is.

Thank you
Hiltrud Schroeder

Hiltrud & Jochen Schroeder
5747 Eagle Ridge Rd
Helena, Mt 59602
Skywestmtn@aol.com
406 442 2088

Sonja Nowakowski

Legresponse@mt.gov

Regard : NET METERING IN MONTANA

There are several issues in regard to the Net Meter Law's in Montana. Our 34 panel Solar System was installed in May of 2012.

The first confusion is the Net Meter Request Form .

1. We had to select our **START DATE OF A 12 MONTH BILLING PERIOD, between January ,first, April First, July first or September first.**

There was no explanation how the 12 month billing period is working. Therefore it was our understanding, we receive on March 31 our 12 month settlement bill. Because our start up date was April first.

We received during the 12 month billing period for January and February a bill for electricity we used from North Western Energy. When we ask NWE why we got a bill during this 12 Month billing period we received a copy of the ENERGY TARIFF FOR NET METERING RULE # 16.

A COPY OF THE ENERGY TARIFF FOR NET METERING RULE # 16 SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE NET METER REQUEST FORM .

2. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS prescript under Rule # 16 should be changed as followed:**

There is no 12 month **billing** period, only a 12 month period.

The actual settlement day should be the last day of the month before January first, April first, July first or September first, and should be written into the Terms and Conditions for Net Metering Rules.

This settlement dates should not be modified from NWE. In our case NWE did a actual reading on April 22 instead of March 31. Between April first and April 22 we generated 391 kWh and NWE had taken our 391 kWh, but we had to pay in January for 14 kWh and February for 120 kWh.

NWE should not take excess electricity after the 12 month period for free.

After resourcing other Stat's Net Meter Rules, Montana should adopt the following:

Montana and Utah are the only States , where the Electric Company get the excess generated electricity after the 12 month period for **free**.

In over 40 States the Electric Company has to pay for the excess generated electricity after the 12 month period. **Montana should be one of this States.**

OTHER OPTION WOULD BE TO DONATE THE EXCESS GENERATED ENERGY AFTER THE 12 MONTH PERIOD TO THE LOW INCOM ENERGY PROGRAMM, WITH A TAX CREDIT .

IREC NET METER RULES should be adopted in Montana.

A clear contract should be laid out between the party who generated solar energy and the Energy Company.

The settlement date should be clearly laid out and enforced by the Electricity Company.

The generated electricity should be credited to all "meter" at the same property . We have on our Barn a separated meter but can not use our generated electricity for this meter only for the meter on our house.

Hiltrud Schroeder

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Jim Baerg <jlbaerg@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 9:09 AM
To: Nowakowski, Sonja
Subject: Comment on Net Metering
Attachments: Senate ETIC testimony 2016.pdf

Hi Sonja, I just became aware of an issue that the ETIC was considering regarding Net Metering and wanted to make a comment.

Please find attached a letter addressed to Representative Regier. I would appreciate it if you could place it in the record and forward it to the committee.

thanks very much,

--

Jim Baerg
Montana Energy+Design
223 S. 5th St.
Livingston, MT 59047
406-220-1498
jlbaerg@gmail.com
www.mte-d.com

Keith Regier, Chairman
Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee
Legislative Services Division
P.O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

Dear Mr. Regier:

I recently learned that MREA and NorthWestern Energy have submitted a letter to your committee recommending that homeowners no longer be allowed to wire PV systems on their residences. I disagree with that recommendation.

I am a long time professional working in the residential energy field. I've designed and built efficient houses since the mid 1970s. I fully support allowing homeowners to install PV systems on their property, but have never installed a PV system until now. I don't do electrical work.

Last winter I installed a PV system. After friends helped me load the PV panels onto the roof, I installed the entire system myself. That work included all the wiring from the panels to the inverter to the breaker in the service entrance. After completion, I called for an electrical inspection, received approval for the work and then called the utility to install the new meter. The system has worked flawlessly.

Based on that experience, I would like to make the following comments;

- Manufacturers have worked hard to lower the cost of PV systems so that they are cost effective. Panels, rails and inverters have dropped a lot in price in the last few years but the BOS (Balance of System) costs remain high. BOS includes wiring, installation labor and fees and permits. **Having to hire a licensed Electrician to run conduit and install wiring will raise the cost of DIY systems**, especially in rural areas where travel is a factor. We need to keep prices low.
- Residential PV systems are well engineered so that **any handy person can do a professional job**. Rails and panels are installed with a few bolts and the wiring is just as simple.
- **Residential PV systems are safe when installed by homeowners**. All the wiring on the roof is done with manufacture supplied exterior wires that have snap fit male and female ends. All the connections just snap together, which is as simple as plugging a light into a wall socket. The ground work at the inverter was also straightforward. The instructions were clear with plenty of diagrams and photos. I installed conduit and then purchased 10 feet of wire to run between the inverter and the service main. All I had to do was make a few connections, securing the wires in the equipment lugs with a screwdriver. These connections were visible to the inspector.
- **Modern PV systems have built-in redundant safety controls**, so that the system will not energize unless the wiring is done correctly.
- Prior to the PV install, I hired a licensed Electrician to help replace my 200 amp breaker box in the house. He did the box work, and I helped run wires. I can tell you that **the PV connection was simpler by a factor of 10**. Additionally, the amount of time involved was much shorter, so

the exposure was less. If a homeowner can legally wire a breaker box, what is the logic of not allowing him to wire a simple PV system?

- We have a **strong tradition of allowing homeowners to do their own construction work in Montana**, including electrical, plumbing and mechanical work. As long as they are inspected, these systems have worked well, resulting in safe installations and significant savings for homeowners. Inspections and education are the key.
- As a matter of policy, **we shouldn't carve out an unnecessary exemption within an established law**. Good law making is always a balance between providing detailed solutions to complex problems and the simplicity needed for effective enforcement. We shouldn't make (37-68-103(3)MCA) more complex because there is **no compelling need** to change the law.


Thanks very much for your work this summer. If you have any questions, I am happy to respond.

Sincerely,



Jim Baerg
406-220-1498
jlbaerg@gmail.com
Livingston



Chapter 2: Installing the Power Optimizers solar 

Step 2, Connecting a Module to a Power Optimizer

- Connect the Plus (+) output connector of the module to the Plus (+) input connector of the power optimizer.
- Connect the Minus (-) output connector of the module to the Minus (-) input connector of the power optimizer.

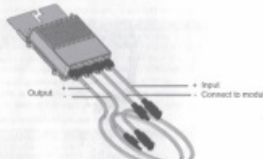



Figure 6: Power optimizer connections

Chapter 2: Installing the Power Optimizers solar 

Step 3, Connecting Power Optimizers in Strings

You can construct parallel strings of unequal length, that is, the number of power optimizers in each string does not have to be the same. The minimum and maximum string lengths are specified in the power optimizers' datasheets. Refer to the SolarEdge Site Designer for string length verification.

NOTE:
String length should not exceed 1500V, 1000m from DC+ to DC- of the inverter. Use at least 11 AWG, E-rated DC cables.

- 1 Connect the Minus (-) output connector of the string's first power optimizer to the Plus (+) output connector of the string's second power optimizer.
- 2 Connect the rest of the power optimizers in the string in the same manner.

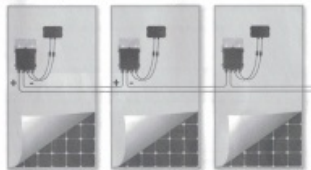


Figure 7: Power optimizers connected in series

- 3 If you intend to monitor the installation, using the SolarEdge monitoring portal, record the physical location of each power optimizer, as described in Providing Installation Information on page 41.

CAUTION
DO NOT leave the power optimizer connectors disconnected. Open connectors should be pinned to each other.
Do not touch the connectors of optimizers or junction disconnects at disconnects. Let disconnects connect/disconnect automatically on site and under.

Step 4, Verifying Proper Power Optimizer Connection

After a module is connected to a power optimizer, the power optimizer outputs a safe voltage of 3V. Therefore, the total string voltage should be equal to 3V times the number of power optimizers connected in series in the string. For example, if 10 power optimizers are connected in a string, then 30V should be produced.

- Make sure the modules are exposed to sunlight during this process; otherwise, the power optimizers may not be powered. If you use a tracker, the power optimizer will turn ON only if the tracker is tracking the sun and the module provides at least 2W.

From: [Eli Ritterpusch](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 9:05:53 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--
Eli Ritterpusch
Eritterpusch82@gmail.com
3298 Granger Ave E Apt 7
Billings, MT 59102
59102

From: [Peggy Fujita](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 8:37:21 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Peggy Fujita
PFujita@aol.com

From: [Lydia Garvey](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 8:37:20 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Lydia Garvey
429 S. 24th Street
Clinton, OK 73601

From: [William Clarke](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 8:37:19 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

William Clarke
1330 Lower Lincoln Hills Dr.
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Maryln Zupicich](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 8:37:09 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--
Maryln Zupicich
mzupicich@yahoo.com
14986 Sunset Ridge
Bigfork, MT 59911
59911

From: [Oscar Johnson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 8:37:08 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Oscar Johnson
owjohnson2105@aol.com

From: [Dolores Andersen](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfiadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 5:49:11 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Dolores Andersen
dodieincal@msn.com
1204 Ponderosa Dr
Missoula, Montana 59802
4064930606

From: [Craig LaCasse](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 3:13:51 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Craig LaCasse
cmlacasse@hotmail.com

From: [Dean Webb](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 10:25:31 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Dean Webb
dm_webb@live.com

From: [Patricia Simmons](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:55:12 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Patricia Simmons
357 Pine Creek Drive
Bozeman, MT 59718

From: [Mary Bang](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:40:51 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Mary Bang
marybangnokomis@hotmail.com
550 State Park Rd. #29
Whitefish, Montana
59937

From: [Nancy Carrel](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:22:19 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Nancy Carrel
29 Red Bluff Loop
Birney, MT 59012

From: [David Lehnherr](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 8:02:03 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

David Lehnherr
P.O. Box 2469
Red Lodge, MT 59068

From: [Linda Wagner](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 7:52:10 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Linda Wagner
wagnerlin13@gmail.com
9425 S Walker Rd
Beloit, WI 53511
608-676-5470

From: [Ruth Swenson](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 5:31:29 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Ruth Swenson
Ruthannaswenson@gmail.com
11 Willow Ave.
Helena, MT 59602
406.443.6371

From: [Debra Turnquist](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 5:29:26 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Debra Turnquist
dturnquist7@gmail.com
2872 Blackbird Dr.
Bozeman, MT 59718
(406) 586-4695

From: [Martha Winford](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 4:33:13 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Martha Winford
marthadw@msn.com
716 W. Park Ave.
Anaconda, Montana 597112149
4065639752

From: [Nathan Glenn](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 4:27:40 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Nathan Glenn
godsfitter@gmail.com
2315 Hamby In
Victor, Montana 59875

From: [Dean Littlepage](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 3:23:33 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Dean Littlepage
dlijm@bresnan.net
Bozeman, Montana 59715

From: [Patricia Dunkum](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 2:39:44 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Patricia Dunkum
601 E Beckwith Ave
Missoula, MT 59801

From: [Alexandra Amonette](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 2:15:54 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

Dear Ms. Nowakowski:

I sincerely appreciate your service to the residents of Montana.

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Alexandra Amonette
1939 Marshall Avenue
Richland, WA 99354

From: [Jill Mogen](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 2:04:41 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

I personally am planning on installing solar in my new home when I move in a few weeks. I do not see why I should have to pay NW energy money for this. I have never done business with them before, and only wish to do so for a very short time until I can get the solar panels installed. If they weren't already in the area, I would use a generator instead. This is not right. They are a greedy corporation only interested in lining their pockets. Those of us who truly care for the environment understand that solar and wind are the way to go for the future.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Jill Mogen
3344 McIntosh Dr.
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Linda King](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 1:24:12 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Linda King
LJKingMT@gmail.com
PO Box 4493
Helena, Montana 59604
59604

From: [Cathleen Kuras](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 12:55:53 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Cathleen Kuras
2328 Pine St
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Paul Hawks](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 12:54:33 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Paul Hawks
PO Box 244
Melville, MT 59055

From: [Dolores Andersen](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 12:50:37 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Dolores Andersen
1204 Ponderosa Dr
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [William Woodcock](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 11:50:23 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

We need as much clean, safe, affordable solar and wind energy as we can get. And surely Montanans should have right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use and invest in our energy future, save money on electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

William Woodcock
2355 Virginia Street
Berkeley, MT 94709

From: [Jeffrey Kreigler](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 11:45:52 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Jeffrey Kreigler
807 North 31st Street
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Marguerite Jodry](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 11:44:31 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Marguerite Jodry
56 Webber Lane
Bridger, MT 59014

From: [Woody Nedom](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 11:05:42 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Woody Nedom
bronco60@comcast.net

From: [Dylan Malloy](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:51:08 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Dylan Malloy
dylanmalloy@gmail.com
2402 Locust Street #1
Billings, MT 59101
406-498-1936

From: [Kristal McKamey](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:22:35 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Kristal McKamey
610 LAKE ELMO DR APT 12
BILLINGS, MT 59105

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Rocio Muhs](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:02:43 AM

Aug 14, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rocio Muhs
2735 Valley View Dr
Missoula, MT 59803-2530
406073281
solimar127@q.com

From: [Heidi Anderson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:02:36 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Heidi Anderson
319 W Main St.
Gardiner, MT 59030

From: [Manfred Zanger](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 8:12:38 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
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Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Manfred Zanger
beamoc@hvc.rr.com
62 Beaverkill Mountain Road
Roscoe, New York 12776

From: [Brian Green](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 6:44:38 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

Brian Green
gggmontana@msn.com
5051 Prospector Gulch Rd
Helena, MT 59601
406-443-5613

From: [Elizabeth Skinner](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 6:42:19 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--
Elizabeth Skinner
easkinner2@gmail.com
5051 Prospector Gulch Rd
Helena, MT 59601
406-443-5613

From: [patricia sharp](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 1:50:29 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

patricia sharp
granpat24@gmail.com
911 Hayes Ave.
helena, Montana 59601
406-443-5512

From: [Wendy Fox](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:37 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Wendy Fox
lettucewend@yahoo.com
418 N. Benton Av. Apt. Z
Helena, Montana 59601
59601

From: [lydia garvey](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:35 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

lydia garvey
wolfhowlmama@yahoo.com
429 s 24th st
clinton, Oklahoma 73601
5803232327

From: [Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:35 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse
geojennifer@yahoo.com
37 West Main St #D
Bozeman, MT 59715
4065395487

From: [Gary Rillema](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:33 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
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Thank you.

--

Gary Rillema
Joggingpoet54@aol.com
156 Amber lane
Dillon, Montana 59725

From: [Gerald Nielsen](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:32 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Gerald Nielsen
nielsenmontana@aol.com
3800 Sourdough Rd.
Bozeman, MT 59715
4065878643

From: [Cynthia Ford](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:31 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Cynthia Ford
Mtlawprof@yahoo.com

From: [Laura DeCrescente](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:31 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Laura DeCrescente
Lunahdcrescent@aol.com
226 Merganser Lane
Hamilton, Montana 59840
59840

From: [Kevin Campbell](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:30 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Kevin Campbell
erthlits@yahoo.com
1046 4th Avenue
Havre, Montana 59501

From: [Margie Reck](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:30 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

Margie Reck
redmtnranch@yahoo.com
340 Bear Creek Loop
Cameron, Montana 59720
59720

From: [Jerrod Bley](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:28 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

Jerrod Bley
bley83n04@yahoo.com
Bozeman, Montana

From: [John Young](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:27 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

John Young
Butteoid@aol.com
820 Waukesha
Butte, MT 59701

From: [Anne Biby](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:27 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Anne Biby
annebiby@yahoo.com
1005 First Ave East
Kalispell, MT 59901

From: [kerry krebill](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 10:12:25 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

kerry krebill
kerrykrebill@aol.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Susan Epstein](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:11 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

Montana is suffering effects of climate change. We need to lead in reducing carbon emissions by moving to renewable energy sources.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Susan Epstein
PO Box 27
Fort Harrison, MT 59636-0027
(406) 449-4827
shrop@mt.net

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Joseph Kipphut](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:08 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I have a 5 kilowatt solar electric system I installed on the roof of my house in 2012. I was lucky enough to get a Northwestern Energy grant to help with the installation costs. The grant covered about 1/4 of the total cost. We pay only the service fee for 9 months of the year on our electric bill. The excess goes back into the grid and our meter runs backwards.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. Joseph Kipphut
420 Woodford St
Missoula, MT 59801-4044
(406) 721-1564
joekipphut@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Marilyn Hill](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:07 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marilyn Hill
PO Box 160277
Big Sky, MT 59716-0277
(406) 995-4238
snowsquidmax@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Denise Barber](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:05 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Denise Barber
513 Graham St
Helena, MT 59601-5532
(406) 457-9143
drothbarber@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Joel Vignere](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:04 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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These are good ideas. Please don't let them fall through the cracks.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. Joel Vignere
PO Box 194
Lakeside, MT 59922-0194
(406) 844-3479
aba303@centurytel.net

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Emily Mason](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:04 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Emily Mason
514 W Spring Creek Dr
Bozeman, MT 59715-6120
(303) 809-4270
emilykmason@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Molly Walker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:03 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Molly Walker
401 Little Texas Ln Apt 1111
Austin, TX 78745-4120
(512) 608-1950
mollywalkermiller@gmail.com

From: [Mary Thibaudeau](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:03 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Mary Thibaudeau
purplemaryt@aol.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [laura holm](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:03 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

laura holm
1627 W Main St
Bozeman, MT 59715-4011
(000) 000-0000
lauraholm.laura@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Kathie Daviau](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:03 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

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Sincerely,

Ms. Kathie Daviau
216 Lexington Dr
Billings, MT 59102-5739
(406) 652-9902
daviauk@gmail.com

From: [John Nettleton](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:01 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

John Nettleton
jpn5710@yahoo.com
SE 37th Ave. #21
Portland, Oregon 97202

From: [Doug Gledhill](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:19:00 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

Doug Gledhill
gledhill_d@yahoo.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Gavin Clark](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:57 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Gavin Clark
215 S C St
Livingston, MT 59047-3103
(406) 599-5281
gavin.michael.clark@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Roger O'Brien](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:57 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

It is evident to the entire nation that non-renewable energy sources must end and renewable sources secure not only our immediate future, but that of generations to come. There is a groundswell of citizens who are tired of policies that suppress the development and implementation of renewable energy and resources while continuing to protect the industries that are destroying our small planet and leaving our disaster for our children to suffer.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. Roger O'Brien
3237 Flora Ave
Billings, MT 59102-0350
(406) 702-7366
rjosephobrien@gmail.com

From: [Robin Saha](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:56 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Robin Saha
rsaha32@yahoo.com
14 September Dr.
Missoula , MT 59802
4065430862

From: [john walker](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:55 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--
john walker
jawalker21@yahoo.com
621 woodford
missoula, Montana 59801

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Kiersten Iwai](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:55 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kiersten Iwai
PO Box 822
Bozeman, MT 59771-0822
(415) 535-9177
kiersten.iwai@sierraclub.org

From: [JP SPENCER](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:55 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

JP SPENCER
jpgallery@yahoo.com
BOX4492
BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59772
406-587-4296

From: [Lynn Colson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:53 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Lynn Colson
Lmmcemail@yahoo.com
4740 Austin court
Bellingham, Wa 98229

From: [Rozanne Smith](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:53 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Rozanne Smith
lunariosie@yahoo.com
809 Longstaff Street
Missoula, MT 59801

From: [Bruce Bender](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:52 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Bruce Bender
brucebendr@aol.com
365 Kensington Ave
Missoula, Montana 59801
4067217029

From: eleanor.guerrero
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:50 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

eleanor.guerrero
artbyeleanor@aol.com
24 east palisade basin drive
red lodge, MONTANA 59068
59068

From: [Lorene Bishop](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:49 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Lorene Bishop
mtmaui@yahoo.com
230 Edgewood Dr
Kalispell, MT 59901

From: [Bev Beck Glueckert](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:47 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--
Bev Beck Glueckert
beckgluk@yahoo.com
636 Toole Ave
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Mark Polakoff](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:44 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Mark Polakoff
markpolakoff@yahoo.com

From: [Jim Azzara](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:44 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Jim Azzara
jazzara@yahoo.com
305 South 4th St, West
Missoula, Montana 59801

From: [Vicky Lockwood](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:43 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Vicky Lockwood
Ranchosanmiguel@aol.com

From: [Susan Evans](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:41 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Susan Evans
geraniumsrme@yahoo.com
Montana 59860

From: [Pamela Clark](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:41 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Pamela Clark
pamgreen11@yahoo.com
969 Fish Hatchery Rd
Grants Pass, OR 97527
6507767634

From: [James Klein](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:40 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

James Klein
jeklein64@yahoo.com
3501 Monterrey St.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411

From: [Zack Winestine](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:40 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Zack Winestine
asdfi23453@yahoo.com
PO Box 381
Augusta, MT 59410

From: [Floyd Huson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:39 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Floyd Huson
Floydhuson@yahoo.com
308 B St
Dixon, Montana 59831
59831

From: [Mary Peele-Masek](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:39 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Mary Peele-Masek
CanestradiFrutta@aol.com
101 Spar Lane
Lakeside , MT 59922

From: [Roy O'Connor](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:38 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Roy O'Connor
Rsoc2001@yahoo.com
125 Bank St
Missoula, Mt 59802

From: [mimi and willy van straaten](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:38 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--
mimi and willy van straaten
mwvanstraaten@yahoo.com
12500 big davis rd.
Three Forks, Montana 59752
59752

From: [Ryan Swank](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:37 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Ryan Swank
eryanswank@yahoo.com
615 N Davis St
Helena, Montana 59601
59601

From: [Cary Grubb](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:37 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Cary Grubb
cb_grubb@yahoo.com
2565 Winchester Drive
East Helena, MT 59635

From: [frances deforrest](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:31 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

frances deforrest
francesdeforrest@yahoo.com
po box 68
hot springs, mt 59845

From: [Barbara Peterson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:29 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Barbara Peterson
Vieuxb@aol.com
200 S Banana River Blvd
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
321-799-2721

From: [elyette weinstein](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:18:29 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--
elyette weinstein
elyette_w@yahoo.com
5000 Orvas Ct SE
Olympia, Washington 98501-4765
98501-4765

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Norman Bishop](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:59 AM

Aug 12, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

As the owner of a solar power generation rooftop system and a net metering participant, I have a direct interest in the outcome of your legislation. One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. Norman Bishop
4898 Itana Cir
Bozeman, MT 59715-9391
(406) 582-0597
nabishop@q.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Robin Saha](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:58 AM

Aug 12, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

Your support for clean energy is needed now. One significant way you could do so is through raising the allowable size of net metering systems for all Montanans, especially residential and certain commercial customers, such as ranching families, as well as tax-exempt entities such as schools, churches, and some hospitals.

I understand that you are considering a proposal to raise the cap for these small-scale wind and solar systems, but only for tax-exempt entities (LCNET5). The same treatment and opportunities should be provided to all would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for all Montanans.

Please help ensure that all Montanans have the freedom and energy independence so they can make their own energy decisions.

Please also ensure that the cost to customers of having net metering systems does not increase due to unnecessary government regulation. Please take a close look at another proposal (LCNET4) that could result in high customers costs and therefore lower incentives for net metering. Such a measure is unfair rollback of existing net metering law. Even though it would protect existing small-scale solar customers to some extent, people and businesses with solar systems should not be subjected to unreasonable increases in cost.

Please help protect Montanans' investments in renewable energy and its benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robin Saha
14 September Dr
Missoula, MT 59802-3322
(406) 543-0862
rsaha32@yahoo.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Dianne Grove](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:55 AM

Aug 12, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dianne Grove
586 Hidden Valley Dr
Whitefish, MT 59937-8495
(406) 862-3156
dianneg44@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Hannah Schweitzer](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:53 AM

Aug 12, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Hannah Schweitzer
1005 Woodland Dr
Bozeman, MT 59718-2765
(406) 459-1724
hdschweitzer12@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Megan Faber](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:53 AM

Aug 12, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Megan Faber
1285 S Sherman St
Denver, CO 80210-1512
(303) 744-9907
megancatherinefaber@gmail.com

From: [Roxanna Mclaughlin](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:53 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

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Thank you.

--

Roxanna Mclaughlin
gaia_maid@yahoo.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [David Chadwick](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:52 AM

Aug 12, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. David Chadwick
221 12th Ave
Helena, MT 59601-3614
(406) 438-6478
wick47@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Verne W House](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:50 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Verne W House
4740 Sourdough Rd
Bozeman, MT 59715-8038
(406) 586-8604
house.vw@gmail.com

From: [Paul Matrin](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:50 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

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Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Paul Matrin
pmartin@yahoo.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Dan Avery](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:50 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

There should be NO subsidies or other methods of support for fossil fuel production. Every effort should go toward rapid development of clean renewable energy sources to replace fossil fuel consumption.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dan Avery
3445 Burlington St
Butte, MT 59701-4417
(406) 494-8199
dgavery@bresnan.net

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Alan Pettibone](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:49 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. Alan Pettibone
101 Ironwood Pl
Missoula, MT 59803-2425
(406) 240-2672
apettibo@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Barbara Gulick](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:48 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Barbara Gulick
2018 12th St W
Billings, MT 59102-3208
(406) 259-3622
bjgulick@bresnan.net

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [ward klemer](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:48 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state. I also urge legislators to work on this nationally. It might sound idealist, but this is the way the country should go, as well as the rest of the world. Unsustainable energy tactics have a negative impact on everything, from wars in the middle east right down to climate change. This is the way of the future; let's act!

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. ward klemer
PO Box 611
Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0611
(406) 677-2566
freeward66@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Joy LaClaire](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:09:45 AM

Aug 11, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Joy LaClaire
3018 W Villard St Apt B
Bozeman, MT 59718-3658
(000) 000-0000
forthrightradio@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Robert Kaiser](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:08:40 AM

Aug 12, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. Robert Kaiser
PO Box 5510
Whitefish, MT 59937-5510
(406) 862-6677
bobkaiser1@yahoo.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Toddy Perryman](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 15, 2016 9:00:13 AM

Aug 14, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Toddy Perryman
1525 Silver Sage Ln
Corvallis, MT 59828-9573
(111) 111-1111
tperryman@bitterroot.com

From: [Jeffrey Kreidler](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Friday, August 12, 2016 10:46:58 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Jeffrey Kreidler
jskreidler@bresnan.net

From: [David Ellenberger](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Friday, August 12, 2016 10:44:05 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

David Ellenberger
davidellenberger@hotmail.com
301 N Willson Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Roderick Jude](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Friday, August 12, 2016 7:50:12 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Roderick Jude
rjjude@gmail.com
100 Lower Dudley Creek Rd
Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730
4065797627

From: [Cory Beattie](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Friday, August 12, 2016 6:46:55 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Cory Beattie
beattiecory@icloud.com
412 E Front St
Missoula, MT 59802
4067889362

From: [Richard Jones](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Friday, August 12, 2016 6:36:48 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Richard Jones
wickiup@3rivers.net
Box 1, 45 Cemetery Loop Rd
Ennis, Montana 59729
406-581-4676

From: [Richard Weiss](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 11:47:44 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Richard Weiss
reweiss@gmail.com
Seattle, WA

From: [Bob Petersen](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 11:09:26 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Bob Petersen
bobajabob@gmail.com
422 Judith road
Evergreen, Mt 59901-2308
4062743156

From: [Gerry Jennings](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:56:43 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Gerry Jennings
gerger1@bresnan.net

From: [Scott Patterson](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:08:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Scott Patterson
pattersonscottj@gmail.com
Helena, Montana 59601

From: [Debra Bonogofsky](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:51:37 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Debra Bonogofsky
dmbono@gmail.com
2009 Tired Man Road
Billings, MT 59101

From: quarantine@messaging.microsoft.com
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Spam Notification: 40 New Messages
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:09:08 PM



Dear legresponse@mt.gov:

You have 40 new spam-quarantined messages as of Aug 12, 2016 12:00 AM (UTC) which are listed below along with the actions that can be taken:

Release to Inbox: Send the message to your Inbox.

Report as Not Junk: Send a copy of the message to Microsoft for analysis.

Sender	Subject	Date (UTC)	Size	Release	Report
"francesdeforrest@yahoo.com" <francesdeforrest@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 12:02 AM	29893	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"Canestradifruta@aol.com" <Canestradifruta@aol.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 12:25 AM	29891	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"Vieuxb@aol.com" <Vieuxb@aol.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 12:29 AM	11041	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"pamgreen11@yahoo.com" <pamgreen11@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 12:53 AM	31853	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"elyette_w@yahoo.com" <elyette_w@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 1:01 AM	30026	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"Rsoc2001@yahoo.com" <Rsoc2001@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 1:02 AM	30537	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"jeklein64@yahoo.com" <jeklein64@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 1:15 AM	31903	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"eryanswank@yahoo.com" <eryanswank@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 1:45 AM	31002	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"asdfi23453@yahoo.com" <asdfi23453@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 1:51 AM	31824	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"Ranchosanmiguel@aol.com" <Ranchosanmiguel@aol.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 2:10 AM	30453	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"mwvanstraaten@yahoo.com" <mwvanstraaten@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 2:22 AM	27912	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"cb_grubb@yahoo.com" <cb_grubb@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 2:54 AM	30889	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk

"Floydhuson@yahoo.com" <Floydhuson@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 3:39 AM	31739	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"geraniumsrme@yahoo.com" <geraniumsrme@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 4:27 AM	29341	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"Lmmcemail@yahoo.com" <Lmmcemail@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 5:23 AM	31141	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"jazzara@yahoo.com" <jazzara@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 6:30 AM	30981	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"markpolakoff@yahoo.com" <markpolakoff@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 11:21 AM	29276	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"jpgallery@yahoo.com" <jpgallery@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 1:59 PM	31973	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"lunariosie@yahoo.com" <lunariosie@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 2:35 PM	26533	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"brucebendr@aol.com" <brucebendr@aol.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 2:54 PM	31054	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"beckgluk@yahoo.com" <beckgluk@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 3:03 PM	31705	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"mtmaui@yahoo.com" <mtmaui@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 4:03 PM	31017	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"rsaha32@yahoo.com" <rsaha32@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 5:36 PM	31398	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"artbyeleanor@aol.com" <artbyeleanor@aol.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 7:24 PM	28930	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"jawalker21@yahoo.com" <jawalker21@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 7:58 PM	27946	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"jpn5710@yahoo.com" <jpn5710@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 8:24 PM	29123	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:15 PM	28769	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:15 PM	25819	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:15 PM	28667	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org"	Please support			Release	Report

<neal@mtvoters.org>	clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:15 PM	28812	to Inbox	as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:28 PM	28598	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:44 PM	28729	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:44 PM	27505	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 9:44 PM	27459	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"gledhill_d@yahoo.com" <gledhill_d@yahoo.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 9:55 PM	31297	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 10:28 PM	29454	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 10:28 PM	24541	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"purplemaryt@aol.com" <purplemaryt@aol.com>	I support Montana solar and smart net metering	Aug 11, 2016 10:33 PM	30345	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 10:44 PM	24449	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk
"neal@mtvoters.org" <neal@mtvoters.org>	Please support clean, renewable energy!	Aug 11, 2016 11:15 PM	28016	Release to Inbox	Report as Not Junk

From: [Hugh & Karen Zackheim](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 6:50:31 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Hugh & Karen Zackheim
montanazac@mac.com
315 Ming Place
Helena, Montana 59601

From: [Richard Liebert](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 6:35:40 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Richard Liebert
wwranch@3rivers.nest
Eden RR
Great Falls, Montana 59405
406-736-5791

From: [Suzanna McDougal](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 5:29:13 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Suzanna McDougal
sumac99@icloud.com
59840

From: [Joel Vignere](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 5:19:19 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Joel Vignere
aba303@centurytel.net
PO Box 194
Lakeside, Montana 59922
4068443479

From: [Dagmar Riddle](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 4:50:12 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Dagmar Riddle
runswithwolvesandbuffalo@outlook.com
P.O. Box 56
Whitehall, Montana 59759
707-208-3321

From: [Aart Dolman](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 4:35:52 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Aart Dolman
Aartdolman6@gmail.com
3016 Central Avenue
Get Falls, MT 59401
1 406 750-6477

From: [Kathleen Gessaman](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 4:11:27 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Kathleen Gessaman
1kfalcon@gmail.com
1006 36th Ave NE
Great Falls, Monana 59404
406-452-7106

From: [Sandra Wilson](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 4:04:38 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Sandra Wilson
4wilsons@mtintouch.net
3210 old post rd
Havee, Montana 59501
4069451911

From: [Don Bianchi](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 2:07:07 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Don Bianchi
biaprop2@charter.net
59714

From: [Shari Dayton](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 1:39:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Shari Dayton
shari.missoula@gmail.com

From: [john dunkum](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 1:11:46 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

john dunkum
dunkum@bresnan.net

From: [David Brooks](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 12:59:56 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

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- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

David Brooks
missoulabrooks@gmail.com
1216 Yellow Pine Dr.
Missoula, MT 59802
4064935384

From: [Carol Hardy](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 12:52:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Carol Hardy
Horseburger@icloud.com
2211 Spruce st
Billings, Mt 59101

From: [Dorothy Starshine](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 12:45:53 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Dorothy Starshine
dr.starshine@gmail.com
1200 32nd St. S. #23
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-788-2299

From: [Bartley Deason](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfiadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 12:43:39 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Bartley Deason
iambart@q.com

From: [Toddy Perryman](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 11:53:54 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Toddy Perryman
tperryman@bitterroot.com
1525 Silver Sage
Corvallis, Montana 59828
1111111111

From: [Karen Day](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 11:52:50 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Karen Day
Karenday@bresnan.net
59715

From: [Jessica Eliason](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 11:34:44 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Jessica Eliason
jbsauls20@gmail.com

From: [Donna & Glen Gleaves](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 11:01:07 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

Donna & Glen Gleaves
donna0220@gmail.com
26 Tanager Lane
East Helena, Montana 59635-3480
4062239588

From: [Pamela Kittelson](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:55:46 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Pamela Kittelson
pamelafouse@gmail.com
37095 St Marys Lake Rd
St Ignatius, MT 59865
59865

From: [Peter Reynolds](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:31:13 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Peter Reynolds
peterreyn@gmail.com
465 Weber Hts
Corvallis, Montana 59828

From: [Matt Jewett](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:17:36 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Matt Jewett
mattyjewett@gmail.com
6929 Bristol Lane
Bozeman, Montana 59715

From: [Patricia Borneman](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:16:56 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Patricia Borneman
patricia.borneman@gmail.com
100 Jefferson St.
Helena, MONTANA 59601

From: [David Lewis](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:16:39 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

David Lewis
davidlewismontana@gmail.com
7050 Donovan Ck RD
Clinton, Montana 59825
59825

From: [Donald Hyndman](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:37:08 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Donald Hyndman
dshyndman@bresnan.net
615 Hastings Ave.
Missoula, MT 59801
406-543-3278

From: [Denise Hayman](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:35:03 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Denise Hayman
scotthayman85@gmail.com
120 Sourdough Ridge Road
Bozeman, MT 59715
4065877229

From: [james kobaszlar](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:32:24 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--
james kobaszlar
wild4jack@gmail.com
1063 grant dr.
great falls, Montana 59404
406 964 3169

From: [Alison Young](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:23:51 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Alison Young
aliyoung17@gmail.com
1025 Hodgson Rd.
Columbia falls, MT 59912
406-407-1706

From: [Ryan Hunter](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:18:44 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Ryan Hunter
rhunter@montanasky.net
Kalispell, Montana 59901

From: [Chris Daum](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:17:41 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Chris Daum
info@oasismontana.com
436 Red Fox Lane
Stevensville, Montana 59870
406-777-0830

From: [CHRISTIAN R Black](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:43:44 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
CHRISTIAN R Black
blackak@gmail.com
1719 Midfield St
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Gordon Whirry](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:35:32 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Gordon Whirry
gwhirry@gmail.com
1912 4th Avenue North
Great Falls, MT 59401
59401

From: [Jim Davis](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:21:13 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
Jim Davis
bnbadenuf22@bresnan.net
2004Phoebe Dr
Billings, MT 59105
59105

From: [Jan Bertelsen-James](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:14:47 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Jan Bertelsen-James
jujyfrt@eurekadsl.net
P.O. Box 222
Eureka, MT 59917
59917

From: [Ron Carpenter](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:04:34 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Ron Carpenter
ronsfort108@gmail.com
1015 W Spring St Apt 2
Lewistown, MT 59457
4063802370

From: [David Todd](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:03:05 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

David Todd
dgreenbluet@gmail.com
1144 Sherman Ave
Evanston, IL 60202
60202

From: [Charles Teague](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 7:36:40 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Charles Teague
maggichuck@gmail.com
421 S 4th St W
Missoula, MT 59801

From: [Anna Lindstrand](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 7:32:54 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

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- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Anna Lindstrand
runningdogdesign@gmail.com
619 Logan St
Helena, Montana 59601

From: [Bryan McDaniel](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 6:38:19 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Bryan McDaniel
Bmcdaniel264@gmail.com
17610 Rocky Mountain Rd
Belgrade, MT 59714
4063886698

From: [Connie Warner](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 6:27:27 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--
Connie Warner
conniebwarner@gmail.com
584 Wishart Rd
Kalispell, Montana 59902

From: [Katherine Crawford](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 5:31:57 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Katherine Crawford
khansen@montana.edu

From: [Erma Wheatley](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016 12:50:51 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--
Erma Wheatley
Ejweju11@gmail.com
11 club view drive
Novato , Ca 94949

From: [David Montague](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 11:41:18 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

David Montague
d33rtsm9@blackfoot.net
34220 Sheep Camp Rd
Potomac, Montana 59823
406-244-5068

From: [Lilyana Srnoguy](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 11:17:49 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Lilyana Srnoguy
mslilyana@gmail.com

From: [Edward Monnig](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 11:02:46 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--
Edward Monnig
emonnig01@gmail.com
1115 Springs Place
Missoula, MT 59802
59802

From: [Josh Barksdale](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 10:46:32 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Josh Barksdale
westsidebarkie@gmail.com
1538 sherwood st
Missoula, Montana 59802
59802

From: [Adina Parsley](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 10:46:00 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Adina Parsley
dickandpat3@gmail.com

From: [Laura Strong](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 10:25:48 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Laura Strong
strongmcc@gmail.com
7312 Hwy 2 East
Columbia Falls, MT 59912
59912

From: [Tarn Ream](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 10:13:33 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
Tarn Ream
tarn.ream@umontana.edu
1250 Harrison
Missoula, Montana 59802

From: [John Dillon](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 10:13:06 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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--
John Dillon
jfdillon4@gmail.com
28204th Ave N
Great Falls, MT 59401
406-925-3529

From: [Christopher Borton](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 10:11:44 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Christopher Borton
cborton@sagemountain.org
79 Sage Mountain Trail
Whitehall, MT 59759
406-494-9875

From: [Carol Edwards](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 10:02:21 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Carol Edwards
polebridgemod@gmail.com
10641 North Fork Rd.
Polebridge, MT 59928
4064498024

From: [Karin Kirk](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:59:47 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Karin Kirk
karinkirk@gmail.com

From: [Cameron Blake](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:51:25 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Cameron Blake
cameronsblake@gmail.com
675 Leksand Trail
Whitefish, Montana 59937
59937

From: [Richard Belgrad](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:39:08 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Richard Belgrad
drbelgradradonc@earthlink.net
9200 Trooper Trail
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-522-1520

From: [Rachel Rockafellow, RN](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:35:41 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Rachel Rockafellow, RN
dave.rach13@gmail.com
1202 South Spruce Drive
Bozeman, Montana 59715
406-586-2405

From: [George Mattson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:32:45 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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George Mattson
gmattson1004@gmail.com
47 Hitching Post Rd
Bozeman, MT 597, MT 59715

From: [Don Burgard](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:23:21 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Don Burgard
burgie-sub@hughes.net

From: [Stacey Tompkins](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:16:10 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Stacey Tompkins
Tompkins.stacey@gmail.com
612 north Montana avenue
Bozeman, Mt 59715
406-570-1304

From: [Gerry Milliken](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 9:08:46 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Gerry Milliken
dolphin@communitynet.org
1441 Laree Ave
Clarkdale, AZ 86324-3239
928-963-9999

From: [Bill & Polly Cunningham](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:44:52 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Bill & Polly Cunningham
billpoll@3rivers.net
308 3rd Avenue NE
Choteau, MT 59422
406-466-5699

From: [Elizabeth Madden](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:40:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Elizabeth Madden
bethmadden64@gmail.com
108 S 9th St
Livingston, MT - Montana 59047
59047

From: [Robert Butts](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:32:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Robert Butts
rbutts952@gmail.com
1124 E Lewis
Livingston, Montana 59047
406-580-3939

From: [Robert Thaden](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:30:29 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Robert Thaden
bmthaden@midrivers.com
137 Morning Star Ln
Miles City, MT 59301
4068531028

From: [Katherine Kolwicz](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:20:39 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--
Katherine Kolwicz
KKolwicz@gmail.com
1532 Sherwood St.
MISSOULA, MT 59802
59802

From: [Marilyn Guggenheim](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:18:37 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Marilyn Guggenheim
mb.guggenheim@gmail.com
419 N. Brady Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Catherine Barker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:18:18 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Catherine Barker
Heronsbalance@mindspring.com
1718 Winne Ave
Helena, MT 59601
406-422-3346

From: [Donovan Walker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:08:52 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
Donovan Walker
Nodrial47@icloud.com
312 W. Tenth St.
Libby, MT 59923
406-293-6518

From: [Lee Metzgar](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:05:29 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Lee Metzgar
leemet@bigsky.net
1001 E. Broadway St. #2-206
Missoula, Montana 59802
406-251-6105

From: [Dayl Fredrickson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 8:00:21 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Dayl Fredrickson
michaeldaylfredrickson@gmail.com
1320 Harrison St.
Missoula, Montana 59802
59802

From: [Fred Longhart](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:55:34 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Fred Longhart
longhart@centurytel.net
90 Konley Dr.
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406)752-8976

From: [Christopher Dunnbier](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:54:24 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
Christopher Dunnbier
prawnckd@gmail.com
P.O. Box 691
Healdsburg, CA 95448
707-433-1213

From: [Rebecca Schreiner](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:53:40 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Rebecca Schreiner
bhandmade.mt@gmail.com
8157 Red Ridge Dr.
Helena, MT 59602
4064378317

From: [Carl Clark](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:46:31 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Carl Clark
ccarlrn@juno.com
604 34 Ave NE
Great Falls, MT 59404
59404

From: [Morgana Rhys](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:40:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Morgana Rhys
woodswitch@wildmail.com
Bigfork, MT 59911

From: [Jill Schaunaman](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:37:15 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--
Jill Schaunaman
Jillschaunaman@gmail.com
1031 E Olive St
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-599-0686

From: [L Jack Lyon](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:34:51 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

L Jack Lyon
ljack1@bresnan.net
PO Box 9045
Missoula, Montana 59807
59807

From: [Jay Raines](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:22:51 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Jay Raines
mrjayraines@gmail.com
1800 Cooper St tr18
Missoula, Montana 59802
59802

From: [Gail and John Richardson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:21:08 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Gail and John Richardson
envirogail@q.com
5263 Cimmeron Drive
Bozeman, Montana 59715
406-585-7206

From: [Cheryl Reichert](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:19:02 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Cheryl Reichert
montanapathdoc@gmail.com
51 Prospect Drive
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-727-1946

From: [Kathleen Masis](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:01:18 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Kathleen Masis
kbmasis@gmail.com
2035 St. Andrews Dr.
Billings, MT 59105

From: [Sue Bartlett](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:56:16 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Sue Bartlett
jsuebartlett@msn.com
59601

From: [John and Martha Stoltenberg](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:42:08 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

John and Martha Stoltenberg
jpstolten@frontier.com
N8362 State Highway 67, P.O. Box 596
Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin 53020-1828
920-876-2184

From: [William E. Woodcock](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:28:24 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

William E. Woodcock
nospam@woodynet.net
2355 Virginia Street
Berkeley, CA 94709-1315
5105408048

From: [craig.bergstedt](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:18:42 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

craig.bergstedt
craig@formationmt.com
218 south broadway
manhattan, mt 59741
406-284-4476

From: [Barbara Rosenkotter](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:13:13 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Barbara Rosenkotter
skye@ucdavis-alumni.com

From: richard.torkildson
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:03:50 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

richard.torkildson
dtork47@gmail.com
39 forest park dr.
clancy, MT 59634
59634

From: [Len Kopec](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:01:14 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Len Kopec
lenkopec@gmail.com
PO Box 666
Augusta, Montana 59410
59410

From: [Steven D Standley](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:00:06 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Steven D Standley
moerygar65@gmail.com
120 22nd St
Black Eagle, MT 59414
59414

From: [Charles Ringer](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:57:12 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Charles Ringer
charles@charlesringer.com
418 e front st
Joliet, Mt 59041
4069623705

From: [Jennifer Swearingen](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:51:24 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

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Thank you.

--

Jennifer Swearingen
parkside@bigsky.net

From: [Bob Roughton](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:36:56 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Bob Roughton
broughton@mcn.net
Belgrade, MT 59714

From: [Elton E. Erp](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:30:47 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Elton E. Erp
eerp@mcn.net
2614 Gold Rush Ave.
Helena, MT 59601
4064423513

From: [Rick Whitman](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:22:00 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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--

Rick Whitman
whitmanrr@gmail.com
Billings, MT 59105

From: [Brian Connelly](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:17:28 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Brian Connelly
Allhourspainting@gmail.com
272 W 2nd St
Melrose, MT

From: [Joy LaClaire](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:15:54 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Joy LaClaire
forthrightradio@gmail.com

From: [A.B. Kovats](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:10:29 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

A.B. Kovats
attila@montana.com

From: [Aven Satre-Meloy](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:10:03 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Aven Satre-Meloy
asatmel@gmail.com

From: [Michelle Nieset](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:07:39 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Michelle Nieset
Michelleheath28@gmail.com

From: [Jerome Cain](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:06:13 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Jerome Cain
sgr@linctel.net
PO Box 1057
Lincoln, Montana 59639

From: [Kyle MacVean](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:57:56 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Kyle MacVean
kmacvean@hotmail.com
865 Claim Creek Rd
Bozeman, MT 59715
59715

From: [Philip Naro](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:53:09 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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--

Philip Naro
pnaro21@gmail.com

From: [TODD COCHRAN](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:50:44 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

TODD COCHRAN
tgcochran1@gmail.com
450 E CENTRAL AVE
MISSOULA, Montana 59801

From: [K.G.H. Nicholes](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:47:49 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

K.G.H. Nicholes
kghn@ttc-cmc.net
10 Jawbone Rd
Martinsdale, Montana 59053
406-572-3323

From: [Edd Blackler](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:45:35 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Edd Blackler
blacksandedd@gmail.com
33435 Quarter Circle Way
Bigfork, Montana 59911
59911

From: [Jerry Bowers](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:44:25 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Jerry Bowers
jerryb6@bresnan.net

From: [todd mott](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:42:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
todd mott
toddmott@gmail.com
po box 2
emigrant, Montana 59027

From: [John Crull](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:41:34 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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John Crull
jcrull@gmail.com

From: [Sue Frazier](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:40:34 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Sue Frazier
Sfraziermt@gmail.com
211 W. Washington St
Manhattan, MT 59741
4065805201

From: [Tom Glover](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:32:03 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Tom Glover
tomglover@mcn.net
1318 16th St
Great Falls, MT 59405
4067886931

From: [Christine Brown](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:30:53 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Christine Brown
Steenbean3@gmail.com
220 Wallace St
Helena, MT 59601

From: [Jesse Weaver](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:28:23 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Jesse Weaver
Dick13cathy@mindspring.com
1718 Winne Ave.
Helena, MT 59601

From: [Robert Harris](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:28:14 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Robert Harris
2020robertearl@gmail.com
853 Highland Drive
Whitefish, MT 59937
4068626671

From: [Edward Platt Jr](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:25:56 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
Edward Platt Jr
edwardplattjr@sbcglobal.net
PO Box 284
McAllister, Mt 59740

From: [Marta Meengs](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:24:47 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Marta Meengs
mmeengs77@gmail.com
107 North Ave. W.
Missoula, Montana 59801
59801

From: [Lori Grimsley](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:24:12 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
Lori Grimsley
lori.grimsley@gmail.com
5900 Branding Iron Dr
Missoula, MT 59808
4065466123

From: [holly heinzmann](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:22:25 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

holly heinzmann
waterofthegods@gmail.com
42 norris road
Norris, MT 59745
59745

From: [Patrick Quinn](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:19:59 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Patrick Quinn
Panthonyq@gmail.com
1430 Khanabad Dr
Missoula, MT 59892

From: [Monica Haaland](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:19:15 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Monica Haaland
monicah@nemont.net
211 Prairie Dell Rd.
Peerless, Montana 59253
4068934456

From: [Doris Fischer](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:18:33 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Doris Fischer
dfischer@3rivers.net

From: [David Lehnherr](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:17:54 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

David Lehnherr
mtxdoc@gmail.com
P.O. Box 2469
Red Lodge, MT 59068
4066717377

From: [james rokoksch](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:16:55 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

james rokoksch
jrokoksch@cybernet1.com

From: [Mark Berggren](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:15:42 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Mark Berggren
Berggrenmark@gmail.com

From: [KATHERINE DAYTON](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:15:27 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

KATHERINE DAYTON
KATHERINESDAYTON@GMAIL.COM
BOZEMAN, MT 59715

From: [Claire Trauth](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:14:54 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Claire Trauth
clairetrauth@gmail.com
3958 Kootenai Ct
Stevensville, MT 59870
4063755399

From: [Simonson Scott](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:14:41 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Simonson Scott
scott.simonson73@gmail.com
1441 Stuart
Helena, MT 59601
406-439-8681

From: [Anne Banks](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:14:26 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Anne Banks
anban@bresnan.net
7 Hill St
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-587-7629

From: [Elizabeth A. Taylor](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:13:58 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Elizabeth A. Taylor
montanabiz@gmail.com

From: [Larry Middagh](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:13:02 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Larry Middagh
middagh@bresnan.net
1231 University St
Helena, MONTANA 59601
59601

From: [Steve Ongerth](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:12:22 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Steve Ongerth
intexile@iwww.org
1200 Brickyard Way, #104
Richmond, California 94801
5104596586

From: [Ralph Guay](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:12:00 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Ralph Guay
ssash3@gmail.com
429 S. Sanders St.
Helena, Montana 59601

From: [Peter Murray](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:09:52 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Peter Murray
pmwm12@gmail.com

From: [Marty Livingston](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:06:11 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Marty Livingston
livingston.marty@gmail.com
3883 Bosal Street
BOZEMAN, Montana 59718
59718

From: [Jerome Walker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:06:01 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Jerome Walker
Jeromewalker@mac.com
Po box 8268
Missoula, Montana 59807
404-543-5172

From: [Irene Cook](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:03:50 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Irene Cook
icr@bresnan.net

From: [Henry White](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:02:33 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--
Henry White
henry.white@gmail.com
212 S 9th Ave
Bozeman, Montana 59715

From: [Jeff Smith](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:02:29 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Jeff Smith
yswolfhowl@gmail.com
105 Channel Drive
Missoula, MT 59804
59804

From: [Sammy Low](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:01:36 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Sammy Low
cougarcreek7@gmail.com

From: [Joan Morris](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:01:22 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Joan Morris
j9morr@gmail.com
804 W. 3rd St
Anaconda, MT 59711
59711

From: [Patricia Thomas](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:00:56 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Patricia Thomas
pjthomas101@peoplepc.com
645 pine hollow
Stevensville, MT 59870
406 777-2031

From: [William Muhlenfeld](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:00:10 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

William Muhlenfeld
bill@distinctlymontana.com
409 Doney Way
Bozeman, Montana 59718
4065228700

From: [Jonathan Matthews](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:00:06 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Jonathan Matthews
jmatthews@carroll.edu
1633 Flowerree St.
Helena, Montana 59601

From: [Katherine Dunlap](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 4:00:02 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Katherine Dunlap
shopper406@gmail.com
413 W. Clark St.
Livingston, MT 59047
406-222-0814

From: [Charlene Woodcock](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 3:58:59 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Charlene Woodcock
charlene@woodynet.net
37 West Main St., D
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Christine Deveny](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 3:58:43 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Christine Deveny
cmdeveny7@gmail.com
Helena, Montana 59601

From: [Gayle Janzen](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 3:58:23 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

Gayle Janzen
cgjanzen@comcast.net
11232 Dayton Ave N
Seattle, WA 98133
2063629278

From: [Charlie Donnes](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 3:58:17 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Charlie Donnes
charliedonnes@mac.com

From: [Dorf Johnson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 3:57:44 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

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Thank you.

--

Dorf Johnson
djohnson@meic.org
415 8th Ave.
Helena, MT 59601
4064432520

From: [Chris Clouse](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 3:57:43 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

Chris Clouse
clousedog@gmail.com
733 Clearwater Drive
Whitefish, Montana 59937
59937

From: [Wade Hoskin](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 9:33:17 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Wade Hoskin
w_hoskin@yahoo.com
PO Box 506
Bridger, MT 59014
406 670-6918

From: [Ken Decker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 9:33:11 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Ken Decker
209 So. B St
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [Dave Gorton](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 8:08:44 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Dave Gorton
49gorton@gmail.com
236 Avenue E
Billings, Montana 59101
406-263-9880

From: [William Hudson](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 7:31:15 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

William Hudson
willardhud@gmail.com
153 Carney Ln
Whitehall, Montana 59759
4062879100

From: [Dryn Durley](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 1:33:18 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

Dryn Durley
dryn@midrivers.com

From: [Linda Street-Todd](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 10:09:08 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Linda Street-Todd
16622 Iowa Avenue
Broadview, MT 59015

From: [Cate Campbell](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 5:45:12 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Cate Campbell
1001 E. Broadway St. #2-206
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Sheila Roberts](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 4:03:27 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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Thank you.

--

Sheila Roberts
sheila.roberts@umwestern.edu
102 East Dillon St.
Dillon, MT 59725

From: [rochelle porter](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 12:15:46 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--

rochelle porter
prochelle13@gmail.com

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: lexi White <bauerlexi@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 9:57 AM
To: LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

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--

lexi White
bauerlexi@hotmail.com
409 s.haggin
red lodge, MT 59068
59068

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Keith Parker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Friday, August 19, 2016 8:40:57 AM

Aug 18, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Keith Parker
3095 Duncan Dr
Missoula, MT 59802-3273
(406) 728-6467
kekrparker@yahoo.com

From: [Ella Robson](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Friday, August 19, 2016 8:40:56 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Thank you.

--
Ella Robson
antiquity22001@yahoo.com
P. O. Box 35
Huntley, MT 59037-0035
(111)111-1111

From: [Borries Demeler](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 8:47:39 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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--

Borries Demeler
demeler@gmail.com
63400 Hwy 2
Libby, MT 59923
(406) 285-1935

From: [Adriann Killsnight](#)
To: [LEG Response](#); bfadie@meic.org
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 10:20:38 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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Adriann Killsnight
Blackbirdwoman@Hotmail.com
P.O. Box 1232
Lame Deer, Montana 59043
4064773638

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [karen.peterson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:39:13 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. karen.peterson
3015 Parkhill Dr
Billings, MT 59102-6530
(406) 652-4379
karenpete@montana.net

From: [Addison Sessions III](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:58 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Addison Sessions III
1117 N 32nd
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Heidi Anderson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:47 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Heidi Anderson
319 W Main St.
Gardiner, MT 59030

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Susan Byorth](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:46 PM

Aug 22, 2016

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Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Susan Byorth
2360 Whitetail Rd
Bozeman, MT 59715-7732
(406) 570-0768
sbyorth@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Hiltrudis Arens](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:45 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I just came back from a visit to Germany and I am upset coming back to the US and to MT to see how little in comparison is being done to support clean renewable energy here!

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Hiltrudis Arens
415 W Central Ave
Missoula, MT 59801-6813
(406) 728-9193
arens.ma.h@gmail.com

From: [Addison Sessions III](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:41 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Addison Sessions III
1117 N 32nd
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Kathleen Masis](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:38 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Masis
2035 St Andrews Dr
Billings, MT 59105-3628
(406) 245-5877
kbmasis@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Karen RICE](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:35 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Karen RICE
1561 Mountain View Dr
Missoula, MT 59802-3361
(406) 214-4525
kazrice@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Allie Beall](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:34 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Allie Beall
333 Brooks St
Missoula, MT 59801-4016
(407) 396-2024
allie.beall@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Mary Jo Gardner](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:29 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

Montanans' investments in renewable energy benefits all.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mary Jo Gardner
1230 5th Ave E
Kalispell, MT 59901-5825
(406) 249-2497
mjgardner1234@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [patrick rude](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:28 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. patrick rude
215 Westview Dr
Missoula, MT 59803-1530
(406) 721-6434
plrude@yahoo.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [J.Foster](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:23 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. J Foster
1118 E Sebree St
Dillon, MT 59725-3157
(406) 683-6219
westwind1118@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Elizabeth Andrews](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:17 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Andrews
72712th Ave
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 459-1377
elizamandrews@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Beth Covitt](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 7:38:05 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Beth Covitt
14 September Dr
Missoula, MT 59802-3322
(406) 543-0862
bcovitt@umich.edu

From: [Alan Ponrick](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 5:26:25 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Alan Ponrick
3515 Glenfinnan Road
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Claire Coleman](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 5:15:44 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Claire Coleman
1302 24th Street West, #207
Billings, MT 59102

From: [Curtis Haney](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 5:15:04 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Curtis Haney
2405 granite ave
billings, MT 59102

From: [Sarah Ray](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: ETIC - Net Metering Law Study
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 4:47:43 PM

Hello,

I would like to voice my support for legislation that will raise the net metering cap and grandfather in existing net metered customers in the case of a change to the current net metering rate structure.

Thank you,

Sarah Ray
421 S 10th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Scott Skokos](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:51:47 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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However, improvements could be made:
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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Scott Skokos
608 Broadwater Ave
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Chris @ The Oasis](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: RE: Net metering in Montana
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:47:48 PM
Importance: High

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to support the raising of the net metering cap to 250 KW for schools, local governments, churches and other tax exempt properties. Our 50 KW cap is anti-job and anti-energy independence. Also, existing solar customers should have their investment in clean energy protected by 'grandfathering' them in to any changes in future rate structures.

Montanans, like other Americans, support (in a non-partisan fashion) the investment of clean energy technologies. As the owner of a business that sells solar power and pumping systems, I speak to these people every day. These technologies are providing good jobs, helping people keep a lid on their utility bills (and offer a hedge against utility inflation), and help in lessening our dependence of polluting fossil fuels.

I hope you will support more liberal net metering legislation.

Sincerely,

Chris Daum
Oasis Montana Inc.
406-777-4309
406-777-0830 fax
www.oasismontana.com

www.grid-tie.com

www.PVsolarpumps.com

From: [Jim Davis](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:18:15 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Jim Davis
2004 Phoebe Drive
Billings, MT 59105

From: [Dick Forehand](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:16:35 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Dick Forehand
PO Box 1107
Red Lodge, MT 59068

From: [Katherine Dunlap](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:38:57 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Katherine Dunlap
P.O. Box 608
YNP, WY 82190

From: [Catherine Logan](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:36:40 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Catherine Logan
PO Box 482
Emigrant, MT 59027

From: [Mark Sembach](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: LC NET 1-LCNET 5
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 11:48:51 AM

I fully support the advancement of the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee 2015-2016 efforts in advancing LC NET 1-LC NET 5 as written and published on August 22, 2016.

Mark Sembach
718 South Garfield Street
Missoula, MT 59801-2260
406-542-0864

From: [Jerome Walker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering Proposed Changes
Date: Sunday, August 21, 2016 2:40:34 PM

I am strongly in favor of the proposals to raise the cap for net metering for tax exempt entities, for protecting existing net metered systems by grandfathering, and to study costs and benefits thoroughly once net metering reaches 1 percent of generated electricity on the grid. Thank you. Jerome Walker, M.D., PO Box 8268, Missoula, MT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gerald Clark](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](mailto:bfadie@meic.org)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Saturday, August 20, 2016 8:20:16 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Gerald Clark
jclark229@bresnan.net
1014 Durango Dr.
Great Falls, Montana 59404
406-761-7443

From: [Linda Avinger](#)
To: [LEG Response: bfiadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Friday, August 19, 2016 7:37:10 PM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Linda Avinger
lavendula@netscape.com
2638 E Smith Rd
Bellingham , WA 98226
360-592-4249

From: [Lee H Metzgar](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 8:33:00 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Lee H Metzgar
1001 E. Broadway St. #2-206
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Wade Sikorski](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 8:00:24 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Wade Sikorski
1511 Hwy 7
Baker, MT 59313

From: [Kristen Walser](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 22, 2016 8:48:18 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am one of the few net metered customers of NWE. I am not rich. I made the decision to move away from fossil fuels in 2010 when solar was still quite expensive, and am still paying off this important and worthwhile investment. I would be hurt by any reduction in the amount I am credited below a one to one exchange.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Kristen Walser
1711 Wildflower Way
Bozeman, MT 59715

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: wwranch@3rivers.net
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 12:45 PM
To: Nowakowski, Sonja
Subject: comment for ETIC from Citizens for Clean Energy

for: MT ETIC, Chairman Keith Regier, MT House of Representatives
Subject: Net-metering, Colstrip, Clean Energy development
From: Citizens for Clean Energy, Inc.

Dear Chairman Regier and committee members,

Citizens for Clean Energy appreciates to time and effort of ETIC to find reasonable solutions for net-metering and we especially thank Senator Pat Connell for his contributions and leadership in regards to finding common ground on net-metering as it continues to grow.

CCE believes the proposed bill on net-metering that sets a 'trigger' when net-metering reaches a specific threshold directs re-examination.

The COLSTRIP draft bills are valuable, and helping workers a moral obligation we believe and de-commissioning must be done properly taking care of Montanans and our air, land and water.

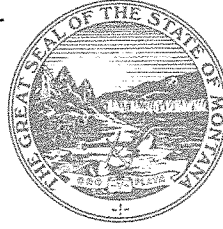
Finally, Montana AFFORD to LOSE our energy export market, and we MUST replace the power provided by Colstrip 1 and 2 with wind, solar, geo-thermal and hydro-storage so Montana does NOT lose to states like Idaho, Utah and Wyoming which are BUILDING new wind/solar farms to CAPTURE the clean energy market of Washington and Oregon.

Finally, as a cattle rancher, I'd be happy to have wind/solar generation opportunities that brings cash to farms and ranches, funds for local rural counties and does NOT need water for cooling, which is the most PRECIOUS resource we have and now COLSTRIP residents have to go on water rationing which is a cruel irony.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Liebert
Chairman, Citizens For Clean Energy, Inc.
Lt. Colonel (Retired)US Army
289 Boston Coulee Road
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-736-5791

Montana Public Service Commission



Brad Johnson - Chairman
Travis Kavulla - Vice Chairman
Kirk Bushman - Commissioner
Roger Koopman - Commissioner
Bob Lake - Commissioner

August 23, 2016

Rep. Keith Regier, Chairman
Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee
P.O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

Chairman Regier:

I write this letter to provide comment from the Public Service Commission (PSC) on the package of draft legislative bills recently released by the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee ("ETIC"). That package included seven draft bills related to the planned retirement of Colstrip Units 1 and 2, five bills related to net metering, and two bills related to renewable energy credits.

The PSC appreciates ETIC's desire to solicit and consider public comment on its draft bills. After reviewing the draft bills during a public work session on August 16, 2016, the PSC resolved to communicate two principles that it urges ETIC to observe as it finalizes draft legislation for the 2017 session:

- 1) In draft bills that assign tasks to the PSC, please ensure that the bills also establish statutory authority and provide budgetary resources at such levels that the Commission is able to responsibly and fully execute each assigned task;
- 2) Please take care to avoid draft legislation that considers Montana public utility ratepayers as a central source of financial support for the achievement of broad public initiatives or the resolution of public concerns whose scope extends beyond the interests and obligations of utility ratepayers.

Although the PSC's initial comment is limited to the above two principles, it may comment further as legislation develops during the 2017 legislative session.

Thank you once again for considering our thoughts.

Sincerely,


Brad Johnson
Chairman

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: jellis4mt@gmail.com on behalf of Janet Ellis <jellis@mtaudubon.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 1:26 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Net Metering
Attachments: MT Audubon Comments Net Metering bills 8-2016.pdf

Sonja -

Attached are Montana Audubon's comments on the Net Metering bills before ETIC. I am sending these in for Amy Seaman, who is on vacation.

Let me know if you have questions.

- Janet

--

Janet Ellis, Senior Director of Policy
Montana Audubon
PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624
email: jellis@mtaudubon.org
phone: 406-443-3949
website: www.mtaudubon.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/MontanaAudubon

August 24, 2016

PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624
406-443-3949

www.mtaudubon.org

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

Please accept these comments on behalf of Montana Audubon on the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee draft legislation on net metering. We support two of the proposed bills (LC NET4 and LC NET5); we will not take a position of the other proposed legislation at this time; and we also do not have any significant comments on the draft report *Net Metering in Montana*.

Montana Audubon is the coordinating entity for the nine Audubon Society Chapters in Montana. Currently there are approximately 5,600 Audubon members in the state. Although our membership is diverse, there is a consistent deep concern about the impacts of global climate change on people, as well as wildlife. Promoting sustainable renewable energy sources is an important way to address climate change. You may receive comments from other members of the Society.

Montana Audubon believes that global warming is the biggest environmental issue of our generation, threatening to greatly disrupt birds, other wildlife, and human communities. Encouraging the development of renewable energy sources will help address global warming issues.

We believe that most of the benefit from LC NET 4 and LC NET 5 will be to solar renewable projects, although we understand that both wind and hydroelectric projects could be in the mix. Our specific comments on the draft legislation appear below:

1. We support LC NET4 because we believe it does the following:

- It helps create certainty and predictability for solar installation businesses, consumers, and utilities alike. This bill sets up a deliberate process with thresholds that are reasonable—so everyone involved will understand when net metering issues will be addressed. This process will help avoid dueling bills introduced at the Montana Legislature.
- It develops a threshold (when production reaches 1% of utility sales) when the Montana Public Service Commission will take a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering to utilities and the consumer. It has been estimated that Montana will reach the 1% threshold between 2023 and 2025.

- It protects the investment of existing net metering customers by grandfathering them indefinitely under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

2. We support LC NET 5 because we believe it does the following:

- It increases the size of net metering systems allowed from 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts for not-for-profit facilities (this includes hospitals, government buildings, schools, universities, and other not-for-profit entities). This will allow these entities to invest in substantial and meaningful renewable energy projects.
- Allowing homeowners and not-for-profit entities to use larger solar systems will allow these entities to become models for similar projects in their communities. With solar installation prices dropping every year, more and more individuals, government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and other entities are interested in installing solar systems.

In conclusion, we encourage ETIC members to vote to endorse the above two pieces of draft legislation so they can be introduced at the 2017 Montana Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed legislation. Please contact me if you have questions about our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Seaman', written over a light gray rectangular background.

Amy Seaman
Associate Director of Conservation

From: [Jim Parker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: support rules to,encourage our transition to renewable energy
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 2:37:10 PM

Committee Members:

I, like so many Montanans, are concerned about global warming. I therefore encourage the Montana Legislature to expand our opportunities for solar and wind power as quickly as possible and without unneeded obstructions. Solar and wind power options are desperately needed to slow climate change. I am asking the Committee to get rid of arbitrary limits on the size of renewable energy developments and continue strengthening incentives for residential customers, neighborhoods, and communities that install solar panels and wind generators.

If the Committee is reforming net-metering rules for Montana (and it should!), please:

- provide solid incentives and regulatory certainty for Montana's growing solar industry,
- assure people who install solar panels that their investment will pay itself back quickly, and
- open up new opportunities for cutting greenhouse gases and providing energy savings in commercial and public buildings.

Thank you for acting upon these requests and for the work of your committee.

Jim Parker

--
Jim Parker, Owner
WestRidge Creative
PO Box 8492
Missoula, MT 59807
(406) 396-0985

Residential address:
3700 Rattlesnake Drive #1
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Anne Kania](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 2:28:38 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing on behalf of Floating Island International, Inc. to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which requires the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increases the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small-scale renewable energy projects and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Best wishes,

Anne Kania

Anne Kania

VP

Floating Island International, Inc.

10052 Floating Island Way,
Shepherd, MT 59079

PH: +1 406 373 5200
Cell: +1 406 208 5520
Skype name: LAMLOW

floatingisland@me.com
floatingislandinternational.com

From: [Norman Bishop](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering legislation
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 12:45:18 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to urge the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:



1. LC NET4 - which requires the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

As an owner of a rooftop solar generating system, I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects, and these two bills will advance that work. I also have friends who live on farms, where modifications to the current laws would allow them to take advantage of solar power.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Norrman A. Bishop
4898 Itana Circle
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 582-0597

From: rstout@xmission.com
To: [LEG Response](#)
Cc: Bbrouwer@montanarenewables.org
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 11:47:49 AM

To Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

As a net metering customer, I support your efforts to increase the net metering cap for tax exempt entities.

Additionally, please trigger a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of Utility sales.

Lastly, grandfather in all existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure, and insist that future net metering customers will get parity in ANY future rate structure.

Regards,

Rick Stout
177 Two Bumps Rd
Ennis, MT 59729
406-682-3072

From: [Tim Crawford](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: LCNET1-LCNET5 Net metering comments
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 11:14:18 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I support your efforts to increase the net metering caps on exempt circumstances, grandfathering current metering customers against future changes with possible raising of net metering caps on private systems. When net metering sales hit 1% of total utility sales, a detailed study should be undertaken.

Sincerely,
Tim Crawford
1300 Dry Creek School Rd.
Belgrade, MT 59714
(406) 388-4211 (home)
(406) 585-9333 (work)

From: [Meredith Lease](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support for net metering and progressive solar power regulations
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 11:01:54 AM

Hello,

I am a citizen of Montana who is concerned about fossil fuel driven climate change.

I ask the commission to support and promote the adoption of renewable solar and wind energy generation. I recently installed a home solar array. Please continue to implement policies and incentives like net metering that allow Montanans like me to adopt these non polluting technologies.

Please embrace the future of renewable energy production and mitigate the negative effects of climate change with your very important decisions.

Meredith Lease, MD
Missoula, MT

From: [Curtis Kruer](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 11:05:39 AM

Ms. Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

As 16 year resident and landowner in SW Montana where there is plenty of sunshine for solar power generation I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging and allowing Montanans to install and benefit from small scale renewable energy projects - and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Curtis Kruer
113 Wisconsin Creek West
Sheridan, MT 59749

From: [Elizabeth Hale](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:58:23 AM

Please support net metering bills...a wise choice given current energy concerns.

Elizabeth

From: [Kristina](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:37:27 AM

I am in favor of net metering. I live in western Montana (Missoula), and according to a recent study from Harvard and Yale Universities (cited in a Missoulian article by Rob Chaney, "Wildfire smoke coming to Missoula"), much of the increased smoke from Western forest fires (smoke will increase by almost two-thirds as the climate warms) will flow in our direction in coming decades. Smoke-wave seasons could range from 25-69 days. The particulate matter of 2.5 microns or less will increase, moving to our lungs and bloodstreams. This smoke causes asthmatic attacks and premature deaths, as well as loss of recreation and tourism. As a person with genetically weak lungs, I am writing this letter in an attempt to change legislation so that I can continue to live in western Montana.

Net metering allows us to participate in a solution to the huge problems caused by global warming. I encourage the committee to seek to provide incentives and regulatory certainty to the solar industry in Montana. Also, Montana should encourage energy saving in public and commercial buildings, and continue incentives for residential customers with solar panels or wind generators. Any new opportunities for cutting greenhouse gasses should be explored and supported.

I understand that we cannot stop smoke coming from other states. But by supporting net metering and incentives for our citizens and businesses to reduce carbon fuels and increase solar and wind, we can at least slow global warming and its negative consequences.

Sincerely,
Kristy Matthes

From: [Thomas Gilmore](#)
To: [LEG Response; bfadie@meic.org](#)
Subject: I support Montana solar and smart net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:31:35 AM

To: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Committee members,

Everyday more Montanans are choosing to generate their own clean energy with solar systems on their homes and businesses. We can keep this momentum going, but only if the rules of the game – net metering – support solar growth rather than stifle it.

Please consider the following principles in regards to any net metering recommendations:

- 1) Certainty should be created for the solar industry and consumers by taking a thorough look at the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales.
- 2) The investments of existing customers should be protected by grandfathering in them under any future changes to the rate structure.
- 3) Larger capacity net metered systems should be allowed to be put onto the grid by raising the system size cap for tax-exempt customers.

Net metered solar energy development can create jobs, decrease energy costs, and clean up our electrical grid, but only with your support.

Thank you.

--

Thomas Gilmore
tgilmore66@comcast.net
317 Parkridge Rd.
Bellingham, Washington 98225-7910
98225-7910

From: [Jennifer Swearingen](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: ETIC/Solar energy policy
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:31:08 AM

To the Members of the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee:

As investors in residential solar energy, we appreciate the work done by the Committee on net metering over the past several months, and we support the Committee's draft legislation proposing the following:

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales.
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

We believe these measures will provide a measure of economic stability for a thriving industry and will protect those who have already made significant investments in clean energy.

Thank you for considering our comments on this important issue.

Respectfully,
Will and Jennifer Swearingen
59 Hitching Post Road
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Christopher Reidy](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support for net metering and progressive solar power regulations
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:29:03 AM

Hello,

I am a citizen of Montana who is concerned about fossil fuel driven climate change.

I ask the commission to support and promote the adoption of renewable solar and wind energy generation. I recently installed a home solar array. Please continue to implement policies and incentives like net metering that allow Montanans like me to adopt these non polluting technologies.

Please embrace the future of renewable energy production and mitigate the negative effects of climate change with your very important decisions.

Christopher Reidy, MD
Missoula MT

From: [Robert Hayler](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 9:35:17 AM

Sonja; I show my support for approval of two proposed pieces of legislation. LC NET4 and LC NET5. We have a small scale solar system and a Net Meter. We understand the monthly service charge. We have never gone above zero on the meter and are still paying for power. Local Food, Local Power, Bob

From: [Frank & Linda de Kort](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 8:21:59 AM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely, LINDA DE KORT, 1290 Lost Creek Drive, Kalispell, 59901

From: [Christopher Preston](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering and solar power
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 8:19:28 AM

Dear Committee

I am writing to you to express how important it is for Montana to expand, deepen, and create new opportunities for residents and businesses to generate their own solar power. Climate change is perhaps the greatest challenge facing Montana over the coming decades. There is absolutely no doubt that our state will be shifting increasingly to renewables along with the rest of the world (as determined recently in Paris). We need to have in place the regulatory structures that facilitate, and don't impede this transition.

After the federal tax credits for solar power were extended recently, my wife and I had a site visit for solar power. It was very close, but not quite in our price range. Uncertainty about the net metering environment in Montana was one of our reasons to hesitate. If the state could guarantee a robust net metering legislative framework, we would do it. The state needs to support net metering and remove arbitrary limits on the size of installations. Existing customers need the assurance that they are grandfathered in when rules change. A stable and generous regulatory framework is required. This is a powerful, clean technology that can be an economic driver for our state. We need to encourage it.

Coal has give a lot of money in the past to Montana workers and to the state through taxes. For this we are grateful. However, the reality now is that coal is rapidly exiting the energy frame. It is a 19th century technology, dangerous and dirty. Montana, with all its wind and solar resources, needs to position itself on the cutting edge of future energy generation. It has started to do this with wind. It needs to pick up the pace with solar where the state's current generation is embarrassingly low.

I urge you to make net metering laws more generous and supportive of residents, government entities, tax-exempt organizations and schools. It is our future.

With sincere hope that you will do the right thing. Please support a strong net-metering environment in Montana.

Christopher and Lisa Preston

--
Christopher J.Preston
745 South 4th St. W.
Missoula, MT 59801
(406) 543-3868

From: [Peter Norlander](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 8:10:41 AM

I Peter Norlander know that Solar Power is important for all Montana!
Please support Net Metering now.
Sincerely
Peter Norlander

Sent from my iPhone Peter Norlander

From: [Peter Murray](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 8:07:26 AM

onja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:



1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

We have 8500 watts of solar on the roof. It covers about 60% of our energy needs. We encourage others to do the same. The less carbon we put in the atmosphere the better.

New Hampshire has a utility that is making a very good effort in providing solar as part of the power delivery mix...Montana should embrace that changing paradigm as well.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Pete Murray, Old Chico, Montana

From: [Mimi Sauer](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 7:57:45 AM

I am writing to express my support for both LC Net 4 and LC Net 5. I urge the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve both these measures for introduction to the 2017 Legislature.

Sincerely,
Marlene Sauer

From: [Roger Williams](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 7:36:57 AM

I write in support of initiatives that advance alternative energy resources in Montana, and am in favor of LIC Net 4 & 5.
Thanks

Sent from my iPad
Patricia & Roger Williams

From: [Charles Fitts](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 5:44:44 AM

Sonja Nowakowski, Staff
Montana Legislature Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

Dear Ms Nowakowski

I write to urge ETIC to approve the introduction of two pieces of legislation in the 2017 Montana Legislative session:

1. LC NET4, which would require the MT Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain specific circumstances, and
2. LC NET5, which would increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

LC NET4 would protect the investments of Montana net metering customers by permanently grandfathering them into future changes in the net metering rate structure. Further, this legislation would require that the PSC comprehensively review Montana's rate metering plan when current rapid growth reaches 1% of total capacity.

LC NET5 would allow Montana not-for-profit organizations to take advantage of the dramatic improvement in solar array pricing over recent years by increasing the cap on these arrays to a much more reasonable 250 kilowatts.

I believe the state should support Montana individuals and organizations in their use of small scale renewable energy projects in every possible way, and these pieces of proposed legislation are steps in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Charles Fitts
1970 Alvina Drive
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Kevin Glueckert](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:52:44 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

Reducing citizen dependence on corporate energy sources is good for the environment, and with renewable energy sources available, all efforts in legislature should promote sustainable energy today. Future generations depend on our wise decision-making now.

Please advise the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you.

Kevin Glueckert
Billings, MT

From: [Kathy H](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: solar net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 9:51:23 PM

Dear Committee Members.

I am so happy that my husband and I installed solar panels years ago. They not only cut our electricity bills but they provide us with a sense of independence. We do not live "off the grid" but we appreciate the ability to generate our own energy. Please enact rules that allow others to enjoy the benefits of solar panel. This is clean, renewable energy that will help Montanans less vulnerable to global energy markets.

Kathy Heffernan
3851 Duncan Drive
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Rsmith Smith](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: LC Net4 and LC Net5
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:54:44 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I've lived in MT since 2012. I request that the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Rhett Smith

From: [Jim Roach](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:55:12 PM

I am writing to let the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee know that I support their efforts to increase the net metering cap on tax exempt entities. I would like to see this cap increased for all small generators, but tax exempt entities is a good start. I also support mandating a detailed study of net metering when installations reach 1% of utility sales. Also I support the idea of grandfathering existing net meter customers to the current regime if future rates change.

Thank you very much for considering these changes.

Sincerely,

James Roach

From: [DANIEL BATTLESON](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering Proposal
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:38:53 PM

ETIC--

I support efforts to (1) increase the net metering cap for tax exempt entities, (2) trigger a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of utility sales, and (3) grandfather existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Battleson, PE (Electrical Engineer)
2608 Hancock Ave.
Butte, Mt--59701
406.490.8758

From: [Sarah Stewart](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please Support Proposed Net Metering Bills LC NET4 and LC NET5...for Our Futures!
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:06:14 PM

Dear Ms Sonja Nowakowski,

My family and I are concerned about climate change and its impact on us all, whether humans or wildlife and the planet. We live on the Yellowstone and our concern is particularly strong given the recent fish virus and its likely connection to less cool options for fish these days.

In any case, we are writing to ask that the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

We support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work. It seems very important for American longterm survival to start really supporting renewable energy projects of all sizes.

Thank you so much for your thoughtful attention to our comments.

Sincerely, The Stewart Family, 1045 Highway 89 South, Gardiner, MT 59030

From: [Anne Ore](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 7:27:18 PM

Dear ETIC:

Please support net metering bills LC Net4 and LC Net5.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Anne Ore

From: [Peter Husby](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 6:30:42 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I fully support net metering bills LC NET4 and LCNet5. I ask for your support for these bills as well.

Thank you.

Peter Husby
5767 Foster Lane
Belgrade, MT 50714

peterohusby@yahoo.com.

From: [Rachel and Dave Rockafellow](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 6:14:11 PM

Sonja Nowakowski

ETIC staff

P.O. Box 201704

Helena, MT 59620-1704

August 23, 2016

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I agree with Montana Audubon that net metering legislation updates are needed. I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Rachel Rockafellow

1202 S. Spruce Dr.

Bozeman, MT 59715

406-586-2405

dave.rach13@gmail.com

From: [Roxanna Mclaughlin](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:24:51 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

Hello,

For a long time I have been hoping that Montana will set a good example as a leader in innovations to make our state more wise and more clean in its energy program. Today I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

It is always hard to get the established utility companies to move away from less efficient energy sources, and move toward new innovations. With more demand, these innovations (solar and wind) will become better and more affordable.

So I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Let's give Montanans encouragement to use clean and sustainable solar energy.
(Right now, the only way I can do this is to pay extra on my utility bill to support wind and solar energy in other states!)

Sincerely,
Roxanna McLaughlin
Bozeman

From: [Marta Meengs](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering policies
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:16:34 PM

To the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee,
I am writing you to encourage you to

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales.
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

Our state needs to put all efforts into changing to complete renewable energy within next few years. Just look at the new methane release reports from the existing natural gas, fracking type extraction and see that we cannot continue to use any fuel from fossil fuel sources. It is too dangerous to our lives in terms of health, livelihoods, and natural resources. Thank you for taking this into consideration,
Marta Meengs, Missoula, Montana

--

From: [CathyEbelke_DonJackson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:15:55 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,
My wife and I currently have a 2 kW solar PV system that is on a net meter agreement with NW Energy.
I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:



1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Don Jackson
1280 Story Mill Rd
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Lynn Tennefoss](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:52:43 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

As a Montana resident who is very interested in adding a solar array to my home, as well as supporting large and small scale projects throughout the state, I am very supportive of the following two proposed pieces of legislation. I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve both of these for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my perspective.

Sincerely,

From: [Anne Pearse Hocker](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Cc: [Anne P Hocker](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:36:50 PM

Hello,

I live NW of McAllister, on a tree-less bench that has much wind and sun. I need to make use of the renewable resources given to me and cut back on my reliance on expensive non-renewable fossil fuel sources of energy.

Please support the initiatives that will give us Montanans, particularly us seniors on modest fixed incomes, a way to harvest the sun and wind power that can either make us miserable, or make us comfortable.

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

Thank you for considering this!

Yours sincerely,

Anne P Hocker
PO. Box 100
McAllister, MT 59740
aph948@gmail.com

WOFZG
Sent from my iPad

From: [Alex Shaffer](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:34:53 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I really hope that the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee will approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

We are considering installing solar panels on our residence and our garage in Hamilton and knowing that net metering will be the rule in Montana will be an important factor in our decision. Furthermore, I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Alex Shaffer

801 S 3rd Street
Hamilton MT 59840

(314) 852-5099

From: ron@windchasersllc.com on behalf of [Ron Cooper](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Cc: [Ron Cooper](#); [Pamela Cooper](#)
Subject: support for rooftop solar
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:32:53 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I recently learned that the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee is developing legislation regarding rooftop solar in preparation for the 2017 legislative session. I wanted to let the committee know that my wife and I support and encourage the Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which requires the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increases the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

Encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-is the right thing to do. These two bills can help move us in that direction.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this important policy effort by the Committee. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ron and Pam Cooper
36 Hitching Post Rd
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Beverly Fowler](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:25:42 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:



1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Beverly

Beverly Fowler
beverly@meetingspace.com

From: [Linda Winnie](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:13:42 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects- and these two bills provide incentives to make this happen. Global warming is the biggest environmental issue of our generation, threatening to greatly disrupt birds, other wildlife, and human communities. Encouraging the development of renewable energy sources will help address global warming issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Linda Winnie

Sonja Nowakowski, ETIC staff, at legresponse@mt.gov (put **net metering** in the subject line)

From: [Rose Stoudt](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: LC NET4 LC NET5
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:03:08 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:



1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Rose Stoudt

From: [MARY SEDWICK](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 3:59:21 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I want to request the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:



- **LC NET4** - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
- **LC NET5** - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I believe that encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will help to do that. We must reduce carbon emissions that are changing our climate so rapidly and is threatening our children and grandchildren's future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Mary Sedwick
739 Mirza Way
Ennis, MT 59729

From: [Kylie Paul](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 3:57:09 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am asking the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two very important proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will advance that work. Global warming is the biggest environmental issue of our generation, threatening to greatly disrupt wildlife and human communities. Encouraging the development of renewable energy sources will help address global warming issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Kylie Paul

Kylie Paul
Missoula, MT
(406)370-6979

From: [David Kallenbach](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 3:56:06 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

Please. It is very important to me that the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:



1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

These measures would encourage Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills certainly advance that work.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

David Kallenbach

--

David Kallenbach
PO Box 876
Red Lodge, Montana 59068
cell: 406-425-1944

From: [Roy O'Connor](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 3:54:51 PM

Dear ETIC Committee members, I very much support Net Metering, as it will give all energy consumers more say in their production and consumption of electricity. LC Net 4 and LC Net 5 will both help insure that options are available to consumers and small producers, while providing clean renewable energy into the grid. Also making locally produced energy available for consumption in the areas it is being produced.

Thank you for your consideration,

Roy O'Connor
OK Bar Ranch
Shawmut, Mt 59078

From: [james brown](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering legislation
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 2:23:17 PM

We have looked over your proposed bill and believe it is badly needed as a step toward recognizing the importance of decentralized solar power generation and guaranteeing those who install solar systems of receiving fair credit for their investment.

Jim and Sue Brown
1504 Woods Gulch
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [L.Busch](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 2:14:28 PM

To Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee:

The ETIC has my support for any efforts that (1) **increase** the net metering cap for tax exempt entities, (2) **trigger** a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of utility sales, and (3) **grandfather existing net metering** customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

Respectfully,

Lori Busch
voting resident of Montana

From: [Jennifer Anthony](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 1:59:53 PM

Please support the proposed legislation for net metering

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales.
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

Jennifer Anthony
201 S 4th W
Missoula, MT 59801
fearlessengineers@msn.com
(406) 721-7833

From: [Susan Biló](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Cc: [Susan Biló](#)
Subject: Net Metering Efforts
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 1:42:23 PM

Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee:

As Montana adds renewable energy to its energy infrastructure, net metering plays an important role in the efficient and cost-effective utilization of electricity from wind and solar energy.

I support and urge you to continue your efforts to increase the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts, conduct a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of utility sales, and grandfather existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

If Montana does not take a more progressive role in integrating renewable energy into our infrastructure, we will be left behind both technologically as well as economically.

Sincerely, Susan Biló
Montana Citizen
(406) 624-6382

From: [Rhyno Stinchfield](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering in Montana
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:29:03 PM

Dear Montana Legislators:

I fully support the following items regarding net metering in our great State and ask that you do also.

- Increase the net metering cap for tax exempt entities.
- Trigger a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of utility sales.
- Grandfather existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

Thank you,

Rhyno

Rhyno Stinchfield, President
Stinchfield & Associates, Inc.
Billings MT
Office: 1.406.651.8898
Direct Line: 1.406.698.8840

From: [Wendy Weaver](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Thank you for supporting net metering legislation
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:22:02 PM

To whom it may concern-

I am writing to voice my strong support and thank you for your work in the following areas of your report:

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales.
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

These are critical components that will help many organizations (especially school districts) implement renewable energy projects that are unable to happen because of current regulations.

Sincerely,
Wendy Weaver

From: [scott_bovard](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: ETIC-Net metering
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:21:32 PM

Dear members of Montana ETIC,
I support the efforts that are trying to 1) increase net metering for tax exempt entities such as universities and churches. 2) Trigger detailed study of net metering when installations hit 1% of utility sales and 3) grandfather in existing net metering customers to protect them from any future rate structure increases.

Thank you!

Scott Bovard

Missoula Coordinator of Citizens Climate Lobby

From: [Mary Donnelly](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Increase in Net metering - across the board
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 11:26:25 AM

To the legislative committee,

I would like to see the legislature increase net metering across the board. Not just for the non-profits, schools and government facilities, but in every avenue possible. I strongly believe Montana is overdue in increasing net metering benefits to homeowners who invest in solar equipment. NOW is the time to show we are taking as many steps as feasible to invest in renewable energy.

Thank you,

MARY DONNELLY
Missoula Montana Constituent

From: [Carol Marsh](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 11:21:02 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Carol Marsh
420 E. Front St #2
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Larry Keogh](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: LCNET1 & LCNET5
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:17:40 AM

Please accept my endorsement of Draft Legislation Metering Bills (LCNET1 and LCNET5). These bills appear to acknowledge the role of alternative energy in the rapidly evolving energy industries.

The increased allowance for alternative energy systems will enhance the ability of service customers to meet their own energy demands without requiring them to remain below their actual consumption. This will enable industries the opportunity to utilize their own power and increase the stability of the universal grid. A boon to all parties concerned.

Additionally the biennially review will assure "current" standards will continue to be met. The resulting safety compliance factors will provide greater assurance of preventing accidental electrocution of utility workers.

This represents a good move forward for the State of Montana. As an energy leader, Montana needs to encourage all forms of energy conversion processes and these proposals will accomplish realistic next steps for the nation to follow.

Larry@OasisMontana.com

Technical Sales
(406)777-4321
(406)363-4201
(877)627-4768

From: [Dan Perata](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net-Metering Law
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:17:41 AM

I am concerned with the lethargic rate at which solar is being adopted in Montana because laws and regulations are not in place to encourage businesses or individuals to adopt solar. Why does Montana have to fall behind nearly every other state again in yet another key economic indicator? With the correct laws and regulations in place solar can provide more jobs than any other energy industry in Montana.

Why is solar essentially nonexistent in Montana, with a pathetic adoption rate of less than 1%? Because Montana law keeps solar in the hands of the rich by not creating laws and regulations that allow virtually anyone to own solar. Montana law also could do much more to create certainty for businesses and individuals investing in the solar infrastructure necessary to provide many benefits to the grid which can lower the costs to traditional utility customers.

We don't have to reinvent the wheel. We can look to the state legislatures that have done a much better job at fostering a healthy solar economy in their states and adopt legislation that will create the regulatory environment necessary to foster solar energy, create more jobs, and protect all energy consumers at the same time.

I understand you are considering some changes to the current net-metering laws and would encourage you to consider the following:

- 1) We have an arbitrarily low net-metering cap of any of 50 kW; there is no rational or technical justification for this cap. If other states can function fine with higher caps why can't we? Other state legislatures are able to allow their citizens to install solar that produces 100% of their usage regardless of size and experience no negative effects. Looks to our neighbor Colorado. Even Idaho's limit far exceeds the one in Montana, are there utilities so superior to ours that they can function at this higher cap or are we just being unreasonably restrained?
- 2) Set bigger goals, there is no reason why we can't manage solar adoption above 25% of our needs if proper planning is put in place. We live in a sunny state, let's meet or exceed the adoption of states and countries with similar solar potential.
- 3) Treat your citizens fairly and make sure that those investing in solar are current rules and regulations are protected from any future changes that would undermine their investments.

You have the opportunity to create a new industry in Montana that will create jobs, provide a solid economic base, and pay dividends to future generations. Please take actions and laws which will dramatically increase the rate of solar adoption and get Montana to to top rather than the bottom of another list.

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Bethany Cotton <bethany.cotton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 9:41 AM
To: LEG Response
Subject: renewable energy production should be incentivized in MT

Committee members,

I am deeply concerned about the impacts climate change is already having on so much of what we hold dear about Montana. Our state and the country's transition to clean, renewable energy is essential to preserve our wild places and our way of life. Because solar and wind power are so critical to fighting runaway climate change, the Committee should eliminate arbitrary limits on the size of renewable energy developments and continue robust incentives for residential customers, neighborhoods, and communities that install solar panels and wind generators.

If the Committee undertakes net-metering reform, I expect you to provide concrete incentives and regulatory certainty for Montana's growing solar industry, assure people who install solar panels on their homes and businesses see a quick return on their investment, and open new opportunities for reducing green house gas emissions and providing energy savings for public and commercial buildings.

Thank you,

--

Bethany Cotton
Missoula, MT
503.327.4923

"Every morning I awake torn between a desire to save the world and an inclination to savor it. This makes it hard to plan the day."

— E.B. White

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: brucebendr@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:40 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC)--Net Metering Rules

I am concerned about global warming and that the Montana Legislature should encourage the expansion of solar and wind power as rapidly as possible. Because solar and wind power are so critical to fighting runaway climate change, the Committee should get rid of arbitrary limits on the size of renewable energy developments and continue robust incentives for residential customers, neighborhoods, and communities that install solar panels and wind generators.

If the Committee is reforming net-metering rules for Montana, it should:

provide solid incentives and regulatory certainty for Montana's growing solar industry,
assure people who install solar panels that their investment will pay itself back quickly, and
open up new opportunities for cutting greenhouse gases and providing energy savings in commercial and public buildings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bruce Bender
365 Kensington
Missoula MT 59801

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Daniel O'Leary <danielo_59715@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 9:17 AM
To: LEG Response

Tell committee members that you're concerned about global warming and that the Montana Legislature should encourage the expansion of solar and wind power as rapidly as possible. Because solar and wind power are so critical to fighting runaway climate change, the Committee should get rid of arbitrary limits on the size of renewable energy developments and continue robust incentives for residential customers, neighborhoods, and communities that install solar panels and wind generators.

If the Committee is reforming net-metering rules for Montana, it should:

provide solid incentives and regulatory certainty for Montana's growing solar industry,
assure people who install solar panels that their investment will pay itself back quickly, and
open up new opportunities for cutting greenhouse gases and providing energy savings in commercial and public buildings.

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Mary LaPorte <marylaporte53@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 6:19 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Renewable Energy is the way

Dear Members of the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee,

I support solar power and other forms of renewable energy that have proven to be a solid and proven ways to reduce carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels for energy generation. . I understand that your committee has been working for 16 months on new rules for net-metering.

I urge you to develop and recommend rules that will encourage the transition to renewable energy. Individuals who have invested in solar energy panels in the hope and trust of doing their part to reduce carbon emissions and help to mitigate climate change must have the confidence that our government will support this. The producers of solar energy equipment must have the confidence and assurance that they can continue their production. Hundreds of good jobs in this industry have been developed in Montana. Why should any citizen want to return to past practices?

I worked with a program in Missoula, Solarize Missoula, to install solar panels on our home earlier this year. The program worked without flaws, the workers were young, smart, energetic professionals who were earning a good wage here in Montana, and Northwest Energy was all on board with our installation. It is working so well!

Please support renewable energy and do the right thing for the people of our state.

Sincerely,

Mary LaPorte

--
Mary LaPorte
605 S. 2nd St. West
Missoula, Montana 59801
216. 496.3849 (cel)
406.549.2284 (home)

marylaporte53@gmail.com

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Gene & Linda Sentz <friends@3rivers.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:23 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: netmetering
Attachments: Sonja Nowakowski.docx

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

My husband and I are advocates of doing everything we can to minimize the impact of climate change. We are writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and

LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

We support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Gene and Linda Sentz
PO Box 763
Choteau MT 59422

Nowakowski, Sonja

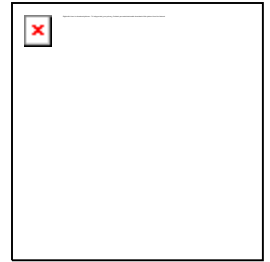
From: Priscilla Bell <pbell.12247@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:10 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Energy

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.



I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Priscilla Bell
1310 Wild Horse Drive
Laurel MT 59044

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Rita Rozier <rrozier@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:59 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee: net metering

08/23/2016

To the Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee:

I am writing to say that I support efforts to

- (1) increase the net metering cap for tax exempt entities,
- (2) authorize a detailed study of net metering when installations generate set percentage of utility sales, and
- (3) grandfather existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

Net metering has driven private investment in rooftop solar arrays and small scale wind turbines by giving Montana homeowners and businesses the option to generate their own energy, and the assurance that they'll receive full, fair credit for extra energy they provide to their utility. I hope to join the ranks of these homeowners soon.

While private power production may be seen by power companies as a threat to their income and ability to meet public needs, it is essential to balance their concerns with the greater good. A timely change toward sustainable energy is essential in light of the unprecedented global threat to human health and safety of climate change. Even if there is reduced economic gain and occasional local power fluctuation, private investment in sustainable energy production must be supported, not penalized. As a higher percentage of power is produced sustainably, predictability will increase, allowing power companies to incorporate it more seamlessly. Therefore, your support is crucial to the transition toward a more sustainable future.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Rita Rozier

39 Billman Ln

Livingston MT 59047

406-671-5446

rrozier@gmail.com

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Dean Littlepage <dljm@bresnan.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:53 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: ETIC & Net Metering Comment

Hello, I'm writing to express my support for net metering law changes that at least preserve, and hopefully expand, opportunities for homeowners, businesses, and non-profit organizations to generate on-site renewable energy. The issue to me is about consumer choice AND about moving forward with renewable energy to slow as much as possible the climate disruption that is seriously threatening our Montana way of life. I am an NWE net-metering customer, and I installed solar panels on my property in 2015.

I am generally in support of the recommendations that came out of the Interim Committee process.

I'm strongly in favor of the following actions:

- * Increase substantially the net metering cap for non-profit organizations, at minimum, and preferably for all consumers.
- * Explicitly grandfather in, at minimum, the existing net metering rules for all consumers who have already installed on-site renewable energy systems.
- * Mandate a complete (!) cost:benefit analysis of net metering when power generated under the net metering rules reaches 1% of utility sales.

Any legislation concerning a cost: benefit analysis should provide for the analysis be accomplished in an objective manner. We have not seen anything approaching objectivity from the dominant utility, so any analysis should be undertaken by competent, independent, non-partisan experts, considering the entire range of costs and benefits, beyond those that accrue only to utilities.

Thanks for your work and for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Dean Littlepage
618 W. Curtiss St.
Bozeman, MT 59715
dljm@bresnan.net

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: vj <h2oshed1@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:48 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: To: Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee

To: Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee

Dear Committee members.

I wanted to let you know that I support your efforts to do the following:

- (1) increase the net metering cap for tax exempt entities,
- (2) initiate a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of utility sales, and
- (3) grandfather existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

I think it is important to increase our use of diffuse energy sources -- including residential & small business solar,
and I think all of the above will help.

Sincerely,

Vicki Watson
509 Daly
Missoula, MT

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: chris@aggrandized.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:41 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: RE: The future of our energy grid...

Good day, I write to request your support in developing net metering legislation, in particular the following provisions:

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales.
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

My wife and I are currently homesteading a piece of property much the same way our great-grandparents did 100 years ago, but the process is much simpler for us with gas powered engines, GPS navigators, sunken greenhouses, solar energy and the like.

As your constituent, I write to humbly request you do not impede these efforts and draft legislation to encourage such game changing endeavors that are being implemented in our community and other progressive minded communities around the world.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or if I can assist in any way, and have a great day.

Best,
Chris
Cell; 4065990382

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Joce Allen <phonehome012@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:32 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Solar and alternative energy bills

I am hoping you will support the bills necessary to move forward with solar and other alternative energy in Montana. If as a nation, we continue to ignore the need to move forward with alternative energy solutions, the smoke and bad air Montana experiences during the summer will pale in comparison to what awaits us down a VERY short road.

Your consideration and forward thinking of the items listed below is very much appreciated.

(1) increase the net metering cap for tax exempt entities, (2) trigger a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of utility sales, and (3) grandfather existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

Embracing the following will hold down costs, hopefully taking some of the tax burden from the citizens of Montana, making these citizens very grateful during elections.

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales.
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

Thank you for your willingness to embrace the care of this land through solar and other alternative sources.

Sincerely...Jocelyn Allen

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Henry Dykema <sundancesolarsystems@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 7:04 AM
To: LEG Response
Subject: ETIC Legislative suggestions

Hello ETIC Members:

Thank you for your review of the Net-Metering law in Montana and for your efforts to continue and expand this mandate. I am writing to voice my support for your position to expand the net-metering cap to 250 kW on public and non-profit facilities. This will encourage greater and more effective participation in this sector. Also, I support the triggered review at 1%. While the solar-pv industry is expanding in Montana there will be time before it plays a larger role in the energy portfolio here. I think 1% is a reasonable trigger point. Finally I agree that existing net-metered customers should be “grandfathered” to any change in the rule. Thank you for your consideration.

Henry Dykema
Sundance Solar Systems LLC
MREA President

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Shirley <2dognight@bresnan.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 8:37 AM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Energy

Please go to renewable energy with fair rules and incentives for people so that our future is safer for all people. I have COPD so I know what not being able to breathe feels like. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Laura Black](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:21 PM

Aug 23, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Laura Black
PO Box 3607
Bozeman, MT 59772-3607
(406) 920-2513
ljblack@mindspring.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Bernard Quetchenbach](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:27 PM

Aug 23, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bernard Quetchenbach
933 Yale Ave
Billings, MT 59102-1845
(406) 248-1028
bquetchenbach@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Sue Frazier](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:21 PM

Aug 23, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Sue Frazier
PO Box 514
211 E Washington
Manhattan, MT 59741
(406) 580-5201
sfraziermt@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [karen slobod](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:18 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. karen slobod
4 Carriage Way
Missoula, MT 59802-3330
(406) 240-9608
karenslobod@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Mary L Dibold](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:16 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mary L Dibold
3312 3rd Ave S
Billings, MT 59101-3810
(406) 259-7103
mlbd1224@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Godot Apuzzo](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:15 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Godot Apuzzo
508 Woodford St
Missoula, MT 59801-4042
(406) 370-8324
godotapuzzo@gmail.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Wade Sikorski](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:15 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wade Sikorski
1511 Highway 7
Baker, MT 59313-9623
(406) 775-6378
wds@midrivers.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [William Clarke](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:10 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mr. William Clarke
1330 Lower Lincoln Hills Dr
Missoula, MT 59802-3340
(406) 549-6214
wclarke440@aol.com

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Elizabeth Grimley](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:56:10 PM

Aug 22, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

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I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth Grimley
4140 Timberlane St
Missoula, MT 59802-3059
(406) 543-8291
waynebetsy@bresnan.net

From: [Gary Aitken](#)
To: [LEG Response: cliff@larsenusa.com; goodwind1.duane@gmail.com; connell4sd43@yahoo.com; robyn@robbyndriscoll.com; kregier@centurytel.net; Pope, Christopher \(Rep\); mtsteenbergbresnan.net; Zolnikov, Daniel \(Rep\)](#)
Subject: ETIC proposed legislation LCNET2
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 5:21:52 PM

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to strongly urge you to reject the proposed LCNET2 bill. The sole purpose of this bill is to eliminate the ability of an owner-installer to perform electrical work on their own grid-tied generation system.

As already noted on page 16 of the "Net Metering in Montana" report compiled by the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC),

"all inverters that meet IEEE standards automatically detect a power loss and shut down avoiding the safety concerns that a line worker will come into contact with a line energized by an interconnected PV system or other power producing distributed generation system."

In addition, owner-installed systems are required to pass electrical inspection before being connected to the grid. We already have electrical inspectors whose job it is to ensure systems, such as home generators and home wiring in general, are safe. The wiring in a house is far more dangerous than the wiring in a current IEEE compliant home-generation system. Are we now going to require a homeowner, farmer or rancher to hire an electrician to perform every modification to a home-electrical system? The 240V circuit for a shop welder is at least as dangerous as the connection of a 10 kW PV system, as is an emergency generator. The 480V circuits in some home wood or metal shops are more dangerous.

LCNET2 has only two actual consequences:

- 1) It is an indirect subsidy to licensed electricians at the expense of hard-working, independent Montana citizens who choose to spend their limited time educating themselves and using their own sweat-equity to provide a better life for themselves and their families.
- 2) It raises the cost of an owner-installed generation system, thereby making such a system less cost-effective and serving electrical utilities' desire to limit owner-generation facilities.

As a consequence, there is no reason to adopt this bill.

Note: I have no economic incentive in this matter; I have already installed a home PV system and would be grandfathered in under the proposed legislation. However, I believe the legislature's job is to act in the best interests of all Montana citizens, not any individual groups such as electrical contractors or utilities.

Thank you.
Sincerely,

Gary Aitken
609 Old Trailhead
Ovando, MT 59854
406 793 5836

p.s.

The ETIC Draft report has a major error on page 21.

In the second paragraph, above "Economic Impacts":

5.6MW is .5%, NOT .005%, of 1200MW.

This means NorthWestern is already half-way to reaching the 1% trigger for the cost/benefit analysis.

From: [Denny Haywood](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: ETIC - Support for Net Metering
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 4:15:12 PM

Attn: Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee

I urge the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC) to support increased adoption and use of net metering. Specifically, I support adoption of the draft legislation that I have reviewed (LCNET1 through LCNET5) as of this date. Conceptually, ETIC and the legislature should support the following.

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties.
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales.
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.
- Continue tax credits or other forms of subsidies for the renewable energy industry to help balance the unfair competition created through fossil fuel subsidies.

My wife and I just invested a considerable sum for construction of an 8.4 kW solar system because I believe it is every individual's responsibility and duty in various ways to share in the transition away from fossil fuels toward renewable energy. That global warming is exacerbated by fossil fuel consumption, and that global warming produces dire economic and social negative consequences are facts. By investing in solar power generation I believe that we are acting as shareholders, or cooperative partners, with Northwestern Energy to share in, and accelerate the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. While we should fairly share in the public utility's cost for this partnership, we should also be recognized and fairly accommodated economically for personally making financial investment for the public good.

Sincerely,

Denny Haywood
2485 Three Bars Drive
East Helena, MT 59635

From: [Thompson Limanek](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 4:05:49 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Thompson Limanek
716 S 6th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Erin Jackson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 4:03:07 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Erin Jackson
716 S 6th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Amy Cilimburg](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering and comments to ETIC
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 3:49:44 PM

Sonja Nowakowski

ETIC Staff

Dear Ms. Nowakowski and members of ETIC,

I have followed the work of the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee through their 16-month study of Montana's net metering law in an effort to prepare for the 2017 Montana Legislature. I am the Director of Climate Smart Missoula, a community program partnering with local government and others to decrease our carbon footprint and prepare for an ever-changing energy future. Missoula community members from all walks of life and socio-economic status are interested in solar energy generated locally and across Montana.

I support legislation that would:

1. Create certainty and a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a detailed and objective cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems in Montana hits 1% of our utility sales.
2. Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt customers who need larger capacity systems. There is strong interest in this legislation in our community and across the state.
3. Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure. My family is one of these, as are many Missoula residents who partnered with our 2015-16 "Solarize Missoula" campaign or added solar to their property in the past decade or longer.

Legislative action that supports small scale renewable energy projects strengthens our economies and provides crucial options to keep pace with the changing energy environment within which we all live.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Amy Cilimburg

Climate Smart Missoula

PO Box 8806, Missoula, MT 59807
406.926.2847

ClimateSmartMissoula.org

From: [Kari McIntyre Kaiser](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Comments to ETIC
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 3:11:04 PM

Hello!

Please pass along these comments to the members of the ETIC. Thank you!

Dear legislators,

As you consider legislation regarding net metering, renewable energy, and how to transition coal workers to new energy jobs, I hope you will be forward thinking in your approach. I'm a huge supporter of alternative sources of energy and think we should adopt public policies that ENCOURAGE citizens and businesses to invest in private or community solar or wind generation installations. And net-metering is a great way to encourage production and conservation. Let's help those fledgling renewable energy industries grow and provide training for struggling oil, gas, and coal workers to learn new skills. It just makes sense to get on board with innovations in energy production and put our funds toward the future, not double down on the polluting energy sources of yesterday.

I understand the oil, gas and coal lobby is powerful and represents many Montana workers. And nobody likes the idea of putting anyone out of a job. But let's embrace renewables and find ways for those running the oil, gas and coal businesses to use their skills and make a living in the clean energy realm. Years from now, we will be glad we did as we all stand to gain when we find a path toward cleaner air and water.

I would also encourage you to promote and reward energy conservation. As a society, I think we've become too accustomed to cheap energy and we waste too much. I hope future generations will have a greater respect for the luxury of reliable energy.

Thank you for your service!
Kari

Kari Kaiser
Billings, Montana
406.698.1260

From: [Dana Morrell](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 3:10:47 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Dana Morrell
425 Clark
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Scott Bischke](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Cc: [Katie Gibson](#)
Subject: Please increase net metering cap
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 2:29:16 PM

Dear Montana Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee,

We are writing to show our strong support for draft legislation you are considering. Specifically, we support the following:

- Raise the net metering cap to 250 kilowatts for schools, local governments, and other tax exempt properties;
- Create a clear path forward for net metering by triggering a thorough cost/benefit analysis when production from net metering systems hits 1% of utility sales; and
- Protect the investment of existing solar customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the net metering rate structure.

We have used net metering on our house since 2002. The inter-tie to the grid, and the ability to net meter, has allowed us to derive a substantial portion of our electrical needs each and every year now for almost 15 years (~80% straight from the sun year after year after year).

Our system is only 2.4 KW so the current cap has not impacted us. But it is a shame, actually a huge injustice both financially and environmentally, that larger businesses and other entities have not been able to reap the benefits of solar or wind generation appropriate to their size, and for which technology exists today.

Please give everyone the option to generate their own energy, and the assurance that they'll receive full, fair credit for extra energy they provide to their utility -- increase the 50 kilowatt net metering system cap to 250 kilowatts.

Thanks,
Scott Bischke
Katie Gibson

Scott Bischke

3940 Graf Street | Bozeman, MT 59715 | [406-582-4442](tel:406-582-4442)

From: [Kate Rossetto](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 2:27:02 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Kate Rossetto
2055 Andromeda Ln
Billings, MT 59105

From: [Thomas J Elpel](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 2:05:42 PM

Sonja,

I live in Pony, Montana, and I have a net-metered photovoltaic system that has provided at least 95% of our annual electric needs since 2002. Our system has worked very well, and it is fulfilling to know that we are doing our part to reduce carbon emissions and transition Montana to a more sustainable economy.

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve LC NET4 - which would require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and LC NET5 - which will increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Elpel
PO Box 697
Pony, MT 59747
thomasjelpel@gmail.com

From: [Dr. Susan M. Eil](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 1:10:08 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Dr. Susan M. Eil
P. O Box 1042
Red Lodge, MT 59068

From: [Tom Heald](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 1:03:06 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Tom Heald
2714 West Bridger
Billings, MT 59102

From: [Ream, Tarn](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 12:45:04 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski and all,

I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

LC NET4 helps create certainty and predictability for both industry and consumers. Specifically it will provide certainty for solar installation businesses, consumers, and utilities alike. LC NET5 allows not-for-profit facilities to align with their principals, as well as be role models for our Montana communities.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

All best, *Tarn Ream*

It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.

-Irish proverb

From: [Laura Ferguson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 11:56:04 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Laura Ferguson
1016 N Warren Street
Helena, MT 59601

From: [Burt Williams](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering and renewable energy development
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 11:12:58 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski:

Please accept the following comments on your interim legislative committee work on net metering and renewable energy development.

While I applaud the effort to clarify net metering situations in terms of costs and benefits to the energy producing consumer and the needs of utilities to cover the costs of the grid that presently supplies and distributes energy to consumers, I urge the legislative committee to address a policy philosophy for guiding private industry and the public to our energy needs into the future.

I recently read that California is making a decision whether or not to close down their last nuclear generating plant, and that the state has been leaning towards closure. California believes that energy companies can make up the loss of generation from renewable sources. Which makes me think that Montana is in a somewhat analogous situation with regard to coal-fired generating plants, and further that similar situations will face many states in the coming years. While I realize that the question of global warming causes and possible changes in energy development and delivery have become very contentious and divisive political issues, I urge the committee to set aside arguments on cause of global warming and recognize that change is afoot across the country and renewable energy sources are increasing being used as part of the delivery of needed energy to American homes and businesses.

All the evidence points to a warming planet, and that evidence becomes more compelling every year. In just the last week, the news has reported events that are either directly tied to a warming (and drying) climate or are indirectly related, e.g., the warmest July in history, the fish kill in the Yellowstone River, the ever more destructive and catastrophic wildfires across the west, and even the flooding in Louisiana. So whatever direction is proposed to the Montana legislature in 2017, it should advocate flexibility in generating energy, including least carbon expenditure solutions.

To me, many of the proposals being considered by the legislative committee are highly mechanistic, do not recognize the need for change, and while couched in technical language such as the option that has detailed controls on who has the qualifications to connect solar systems to the grid, seem punitive and obstructive to the accomplishment of adding energy options for the future.

Instead, I would like to see measures that reflect (and promote) fair treatment of utilities in recovering their fixed costs of maintaining the electrical grid, but at the same time encourage ways to make that grid more modern, regional and flexible. Given the the already impacting events of climate change, we need to be urgent in our promotion of new energy sources, while not making that change radically fast. As a state and society we must recognize the need for the gradual shift of the transmission system to accept more types of energy input.

Instead of putting all the attention on the connection of individual rooftop solar arrays or small wind generating equipment to the grid, I would feel better served by my legislature if it found ways to encourage a system more receptive to change, like the creation "virtual" energy plants that draw on different configurations of multiple sources of energy. From looking at web sites on the subject, some utilities across the country already have developed virtual power plants, using the power of computer abilities and the world wide web to instantly shift their power draws to where renewable energy is being produced at the moment, and thereby over time beginning to reduce the need for carbon burning energy plants.

I do not understand the antipathy for regulation of any kind by the last few Montana legislatures. Where government can look to the future and encourage beneficial change it should step up to the plate and enact the necessary measures. I hope you will do so in your proposed legislative measures for the next Montana legislative session.

Incidentally, I note the continued exceptional treatment of electric cooperatives, principally by exempting them from Public Service Commission jurisdiction, in the legislative proposals. In this interconnected energy world, I can see no reason that cooperatives are not held to the same standards to which private or investor owned utilities are held. To think that a small board of trustees elected from among the lay consumer base of individual utilities can have the resources and expertise to evaluate the effects of their cooperative on the grid of energy sources shared by all of our citizens is, frankly, ridiculous. Speaking as a cooperative consumer, I urge that the legislature place cooperatives under the purview of the Public Service Commission.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Burt Williams
PO Box 600
Fishtail MT 59028

From: [SUSANN Beug](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 10:19:43 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am the owner of a solar array. As I approached retirement I wanted a way to reduce my energy costs on a long term basis and support renewable energy. I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
- o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

SUSANN Beug
178 hwy 78
Red Lodge, CO 80621

From: [Ken Rand](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:50:27 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
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However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Ken Rand
606 Gerald Ave.
Missoula, MT 59801

From: [Catie DeMets](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:33:53 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
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- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Catie DeMets

Catie DeMets
7949 Hamilton Meadows Rd
Verona, WI 53593

From: [Joan Montagne](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:32:05 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

We have had 40 solar panels on our downtown Bozeman home since 2007. Our net metering has made a difference in our NWE bills but more importantly we are strong advocates of renewable energy!

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Joan Montagne
1105 S. Tracy
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Dana Leininger](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net metering draft bills
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 7:56:03 AM

Ms. Nowakowski,

As a current owner of a rural residential solar system, I support the draft legislation LC Net 4 & LC Net 5, for net metering. We have been concerned that our local REA, Fergus Electric, would raise the "tax" on our solar installation above the \$8.00 they currently charge. The June 2016 Rural Montana Magazine Managers report states that they are using a consultant to help them decide if the rates they charge grid tied customers is equitable for all members of the REA. There are currently less than 20 solar grid tied consumers on the Fergus Electric roles, and we are very concerned that they will raise the "tax" on us to some exorbitant rate like they told us they would charge when we first approached them about a grid tied solar system; \$225 per month to be exact.

We paid almost \$1000 for the privilege of being grid tied with our REA. Northwestern Energy does not currently charge this exorbitant fee. We rural customers often do not have a choice as to where we get our power, and all Fergus Electric customers already pay a hookup fee of \$32.50 per month; a far larger fee than Northwestern Energy charges its customers. We surely hope the PSC will be able to regulate these grid tied fees to make it possible for rural customers in particular to use a grid tied system with out punitive exorbitant fees ties to them. This is why we support these pieces of legislation.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Dana Leininger
Rural Solar Grid Tied Consumer
Lewistown, Montana

From: [Steve McArthur](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: RE rules for net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 11:26:57 PM

Dear Sirs, As a Montana resident and committed Green Energy voter. I hope you new rules will:

- 1) INCREASE the net metering cap for tax exempt entities
- 2) Trigger a detailed study of net metering when installations generate 1% of utility sales.
- 3) Grandfather existing net metering customers under any future changes to the rate structure.

Represent the interests of the people of Montana and not the corporate interests

Sincerely , Steve McArthur

From: ja_ferguson@yahoo.com
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: please support renewable energy
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 11:21:38 PM

Dear Members of the Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee:

I appreciate the work you do on behalf of the citizens of the State of Montana. My family has called Montana home for generations. What I know about Montanans is that when members of communities support each other, we are capable of facing even the toughest of changes together. Reducing our dependency on the fossil fuels that jeopardize our climate is a daunting challenge, but we can do it.

As a parent, an Aunt and a teacher of young children, I care deeply about the future of our state and our planet. Now is the time to be courageous and forward-thinking. We must support renewable energy by providing strong incentives to businesses and individuals who install solar panels and wind generators.

Thank you for your attention.

Jenny Ferguson
(406) 721-6584

From: [Gary Hawk](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 9:17:31 PM

Dear ETIC Committee:

I have a keen interest in your efforts to review current legislation on net metering and plan for the future. I installed a 20 panel system that began producing energy this past March. While I very much want to see my current net metering arrangement protected under law, my concerns are much larger than self-interest. With Lolo Creek dry in its lower reaches, the Yellowstone River closed, and numerous fires in western Montana, the price of climate change should be evident to everyone. It seems imperative to me that the Montana Legislature do all it can to provide incentives for renewable energy and at the very least should raise the net metering cap to 250 kw for schools, local governments and non-profits; protect the investment of people who have foreseen the need for private solar systems, and increase clarity and certainty in the minds of people who install them. As soon as possible I would like to see more incentives and fair rates for where renewable energy systems are installed on commercial buildings and by municipalities.

Thank you for your important and timely work.

Gary W. Hawk
5860 Kerr Dr.
Missoula, MT 59803

From: [J. Sky Cova](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Etic net metering progress
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 9:11:30 PM

Hello! As a citizen of Montana since 1985 and an ex-employee of a Helena solar installation company, I want to voice my support for the recent proposed changes to Montana's net metering law, including the 250 cap, the grandfathering, and the 1% study trigger. All of these seem to be valuable measures toward a responsible, sensible clean energy future.

From: [Bonnie Boone-Altshuld](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 9:09:44 PM

Sonja Nowakowski
ETIC staff
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I am writing in support of local renewable energy projects that a communities can embrace and get behind. This is how renewable energy will take hold and make a difference. This is in mind, I am writing to ask the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve the following two proposed pieces of legislation for introduction at the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - which require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances; and
2. LC NET5 - which increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I support encouraging Montanans to install small scale renewable energy projects-and these two bills will advance that work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Altshuld

From: [brian kerns](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Net Metering Draft Legislation
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 7:53:15 PM

Committee:

I am in support of:

1. Raising the net metering cap to 250 kiloWatts or more
2. Enacting a trigger for a detailed cost/benefit analysis once accumulated net metered installations exceed 1% of utility sales.
3. Protect investments by grandfathering existing net meter installations against any changes to net metering law.
4. Creating "community" or "virtual" net metering provisions to allow folks like myself, who have an obstruction (tree) that prevents a renewable energy installation on my property, to invest in and benefit from a optimally sited renewable energy installation.

-Brian Kerns

235 McLeod

Missoula, MT

From: [Pamela Poon](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 11:31:07 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

Our family paid a premium to install solar panels 12 years ago!! Please support our right to generate clean renewable energy for our family's use because this allows us to invest in our energy future, save money on our electric bill, and creates good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

- o Creating market certainty for solar installation businesses and consumers by laying out a clear process to re-evaluate the impacts of net metering at an appropriate time in the future;
- o Directing the Public Service Commission to analyze the benefits and costs of net metering when production reaches 1% of utility sales. Currently net metering systems generate an estimated 0.1% to 0.2% of NorthWestern Energy's annual sales;
- o Protecting the investment of existing customers by grandfathering them under any future changes to the rate structure;
- o Ensuring the safety of electrical professionals by regularly updating standards and trainings to reflect the latest National Electrical Code.
However, improvements could be made:
 - o While the proposed increase of the net metering cap to 250 kW for non-profit and public buildings would be a step forward, it is wrong to discriminate by type of customer in the law. All customers should have the right to offset all of their energy use, and we should not pick winners and losers.

On behalf of all Montanans and those of us who have already invested in solar, thank you for your efforts.

Pamela Poon
PO Box 665
Bozeman, MT 59771

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Eamon Ormseth <eamon.ormseth@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 3:03 PM
To: LEG Response

Dear Members of the Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee,
I am a Montana State resident who desires less government regulation in the electricity generation sector of our economy. It is a well-known principle in economics that reducing the burden of red tape and allowing people to more directly control and sell their resources encourages economic innovation and growth. With this in mind, I support reforming net-metering rules in Montana along these guidelines:

- provide solid incentives and regulatory certainty for Montana's growing solar industry,
- assure people who install solar panels that their investment will pay itself back quickly, and
- open up new opportunities for cutting greenhouse gases and providing energy savings in commercial and public buildi

Thanks for you time and I hope the committee can come to a reasonable decision for the benefit of all Montanans.

Best,
Eamon Ormseth

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Kevin Dowling <kpdowling@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 1:17 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Support net metering recommendations

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

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However, improvements could be made:

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Kevin Dowling
1825 10th Street W.
Billings, MT 59102

Nowakowski, Sonja

From: Montana Conservation Voters <neal@mtvoters.org> on behalf of Rosalynn Belden <mcv@mtvoters.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 2:12 PM
To: LEG Response
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!

Aug 24, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and its benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Rosalynn Belden
2001 S 14th St W
Missoula, MT 59801-4917
(208) 874-3256
rosalynn.belden@gmail.com

From: [Clinton Nagel](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:20:05 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Clinton Nagel
1385 Golden Gate Ave
Bozeman, MT 59718

From: [Ken Clark](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:19:56 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Ken Clark
3356 Hoffman
East Helena, MT 59635

From: [Maryalice Chester](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:19:55 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Maryalice Chester
520 Clarke St
Helena, MT 59601

From: [Heidi Anderson](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:19:53 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Heidi Anderson
319 W Main St.
Gardiner, MT 59030

From: [Rev. Michael Mulberry](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:19:52 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Rev. Michael Mulberry
1241 Avenue F
Billings, MT 59102

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Gwen McKenna](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:19:49 PM

Aug 24, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

One proposal you are considering (LCNET5) would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. While this is a good step in the right direction, I'd encourage you to extend that opportunity to all Montanans, so they have the freedom to make their own energy decisions.

Another proposal (LCNET4) would protect existing small-scale solar customers while allowing the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from such 'net-metered' systems. It's not fair that people and businesses with solar systems have unreasonable increases in cost just because of a rollback in Montana's net metering laws. I hope you will hold the line and protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gwen McKenna
2003 26th Ave
Missoula, MT 59804-6436
(406) 546-1192
gmckettering@gmail.com

From: [Amanda Obery](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 7:56:05 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

I support the following principles in this legislation:

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Amanda Obery
912 S Willson Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Donald Seibert](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support of Solar Power
Date: Friday, August 26, 2016 9:07:55 AM

Dear Sonja,

I know I should have sent this email yesterday, but I hope I am not too late.

I support bills LC NET4 and LC NET5. The ETIC needs to really push these bills in the state legislature. For the past several years our legislature has let the power companies rule the discussion on net metering, now we as concerned citizens, need to change the picture and approved net metering for all of Montana.

I have read the Montana Audubon position on net metering and support the organizations position.

Donald Seibert
Board member, Montana Audubon

From: [Ephie Risho](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: I support the draft legislation to increase net metering caps
Date: Friday, August 26, 2016 8:07:54 AM

I am a resident of Bozeman, MT, and I am excited about this possibility.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ephie Risho

From: [Connie Cohen](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: net metering
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 10:52:37 PM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I would like the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to approve these two pieces of legislation to be introduced in the 2017 Montana Legislature:

1. LC NET4 - This will require the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to review net metering rates under certain circumstances.
2. LC NET5 - This will increase the net metering cap for tax-exempt properties from the current level of 50 kilowatts to 250 kilowatts.

I think it is a good thing for us to produce energy in our homes. These bills will be helpful.

I appreciate your attention.

Sincerely,
Connie Cohen

From: [Diane](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: importance of your legislative support of solar energy
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:17:45 PM

Dear Committee Members:

I strongly support your passage of legislation that will enable Montana citizens to utilize solar energy. This is a solid and predictable investment in Montana's future, that will have a positive impact on health, economy, and sustainability. There should be no limits on the amount of energy that residences generate and provide back into the system. Citizens should not be faced with any penalties for providing energy. I ask you to provide solid incentives for Montana's growing solar industry; provide assurance to people who install solar panels that their investment will pay itself back quickly; and provide financial incentives for commercial and public building to use solar energy. You have the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the future of Montana with these actions.

Sincerely,

Diane V Haddon

From: [John Sugden](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 29, 2016 8:09:44 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

John Sugden
912 South Willson Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Gail McLean](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Support net metering recommendations
Date: Monday, August 29, 2016 8:09:47 AM

Dear Ms. Nowakowski,

I support customers' right to generate clean renewable energy for their own use because this allows individuals to invest in their energy future, save money on their electric bills, and create good-paying local jobs. Thank you to ETIC for considering this important issue.

The draft legislation proposed by ETIC represents the middle ground between utilities and clean energy advocates and is a step in the right direction. I hope you will continue to support good policies that enable more locally-generated clean energy.

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On behalf of all Montanans, thank you for your efforts.

Gail McLean
Box 1758
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

From: [Montana Conservation Voters](#) on behalf of [Nike Stevens](#)
To: [LEG Response](#)
Subject: Please support clean, renewable energy!
Date: Monday, August 29, 2016 8:09:48 AM

Aug 25, 2016

ETIC Staff Sonja Nowakowski
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620

Dear ETIC Staff Nowakowski,

Montana needs to continue to lead when it comes to clean, renewable energy. I encourage you to take action to create certainty for homeowners and businesses who want solar and wind to play a larger role in their energy choices. Montana needs to lead in renewable energy.

I urge you to support (LCNET5) which would raise the allowable size of net metering systems for tax-exempt entities wanting to install solar or wind on their buildings. Please extend this program to all Montanans.

Please support (LCNET4) that would protect existing small-scale solar customers and allow the Public Service Commission to evaluate electricity generation from 'net-metered' systems. Please protect Montanans investments in renewable energy and it's benefits to our citizens and our state.

I ask you to support steps to allow Montanans to make the energy decisions that make sense to them while also ensuring certainty for our current renewable energy customers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nike Stevens
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