



How Rooftop Solar is Threatened in Florida

FSC Net Metering Webinar
September 10, 2020

PANELISTS



Susan Glickman, Moderator
Florida Director
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy



Tory Perfetti
Chairman
Floridians for Solar Choice



Dr. Stephen A. Smith
Executive Director
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy



Bryan Jacob
Solar Program Director
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

ABOUT

SOUTHERN ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY

The Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE) is a nonprofit organization that promotes responsible energy choices to ensure clean, safe, and healthy communities throughout the Southeast. As a leading voice for energy policy in our region, SACE is focused on transforming the way we produce and consume energy in the Southeast.

FLORIDIANS FOR SOLAR CHOICE

Floridians for Solar Choice is a broad grassroots coalition launched in 2015 to ensure Floridians have the right to power their homes and businesses with clean, affordable electricity by harnessing the power of the sun.

WHAT IS NET METERING?

- ☀️ “Net metering” means a metering and billing methodology whereby customer-owned renewable generation is allowed to offset the customer’s electricity consumption on site. [F.S. 366.91]
- ☀️ Utilities in most states offer net metering though specific designs can vary.
- ☀️ In Florida, net metering was established by the State Legislature in 2008 along with rules implemented by the Public Service Commission.
- ☀️ Florida's net metering policies currently allow solar customers to receive full, fair retail credit from their utility for the excess energy they produce and send along to the electricity grid.



HOW IS NET-METERING/SOLAR CHOICE AT RISK IN FLORIDA RIGHT NOW

5

- ☀ A utility front group **Energy Fairness** [sic] published a report and **State Representative Lawrence McClure** surfaced it to the PSC.
- ☀ “I am asking that the Florida Public Service Commission immediately begin an in-depth and thorough review of applicable rules and appropriate regulatory policies related to customer-owned renewable energy facilities, including the costs [sic] arising from net metering that are shifted to the general body of customers and associated retail rate credit.”
– Excerpt from State Representative McClure’s letter to the FPSC.
- ☀ *Note: This is just a 2019/20 update to a comparable report from 2017 “**Net Metering: Costs, Customers, and a Smarter Way Forward**” by the same utility front group, then known as PACE ([Partnership for Affordable Clean Energy](#)).*



ENERGY FAIRNESS REPORT FULL OF MISLEADING INFORMATION

REPORT: “Solar accounted for 1.65% of Florida’s electricity needs in 2018.”

FACT: The vast majority of this is utility-scale solar; net metering represented only 0.2% in 2018.

REPORT: Emphasizes a 6,400% increase in customer interconnections since 2008.

FACT: Net metering still has relatively low adoption in Florida. While it grew 300 MW from 2008 to 2018, the capacity of fossil gas generation increased 9,000 MW in the same time frame.

REPORT: Energy Fairness [sic] is proposing **a solution in search of a problem.**

FACT: Any process involving a change to the state net metering rule must involve data, not talking points, and an extended stakeholder process to analyze impact if any to the utility’s system.

KEY MESSAGES FOR FLORIDA PSC WORKSHOP

- ☀ Net metering is growing in Florida; however countervailing factors may temper growth projections
 - Investment Tax Credit (ITC) phase-down, shared-solar programs
- ☀ Florida's net metering penetration remains low; economic threat misleading.
- ☀ Triggered by higher penetrations of solar than Florida currently exhibits, utility-stakeholder collaboration has surfaced innovative approaches in other jurisdictions.
- ☀ As solar penetration increases to levels that warrant it, SACE is open to similar collaboration with utilities in Florida at the appropriate time.



TAKE ACTION

The Public Service Commission will be holding a workshop to discuss customer-owned renewable generation on September 17, 2020. SACE and other stakeholders will present.

- ✴ Send an editable letter to the Commission at FLSolarChoice.org!
- ✴ Write a Letter to the Editor of your local paper.
- ✴ Take Action on Social Media: Tweet! Post! Share your personal stories and encourage others to join you in taking action; tag Florida PSC Commissioners and @flsolarchoice.
- ✴ Follow @flsolarchoice on Twitter and Facebook for updates.

