

February 25, 2015

Via email at [secretary@dps.ny.gov](mailto:secretary@dps.ny.gov)

Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary  
New York State Public service Commission  
Three Empire Plaza Albany, New York 12223-1350

**Re: PSC Case 14-E-0151 / 14-E-0422 - ORDER RAISING NET METERING  
MINIMUM CAPS, REQUIRING TARIFF REVISIONS, MAKING OTHER  
FINDINGS, AND ESTABLISHING FURTHER PROCEDURES**

Dear Secretary Burgess:

We the undersigned members of the Senate appreciate the fact that the Public Service Commission has agreed to reconsider the recent policy change that modifies the way utilities value the power produced by remote net-metered solar farms. Prior to this policy change, utilities were required to purchase a certain percentage of their total load from large-scale solar producers and to purchase this power at a higher rate than they are able to charge customers. The intent of this policy was to make large scale solar production more profitable. The utilities sought relief from having to purchase such power at a higher rate.

While we are sensitive to the fact that New York's utilities are overburdened with extra costs and assessments that are passed on to ratepayers, we also recognize the importance of large-scale solar projects, particularly to upstate economies. As you know, this policy change could significantly jeopardize many projects already in progress throughout the state. We are concerned that a significant change in the rules that will impact the economics of net metering without sufficient input from market participants and when private companies and municipal entities have already made capital commitments is bad precedent. We also believe that PSC rulings must be consistent with NYSERDA programs. As the Department and the PSC revisit the analysis for this December 15, 2014 policy change decision, we request that the interests of both ratepayers and solar developers be protected and balanced with appropriate grandfathering provisions, and that the Commission ruling be definitive so that market participants can react and proceed accordingly.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Joseph Griffo



Senator George Amedore



Senator Terrence P. Murphy