

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Develop a
Successor to Existing Net Energy Metering
Tariffs Pursuant to Public Utilities Code
Section 2827.1, and to Address Other Issues
Related to Net Energy Metering

Rulemaking 14-07-002
(Filed July 10, 2014)

**NORTHERN CIRCLE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY'S
NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION**

Robert Long
Maintenance/Modernization Manager
Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority
694 Pinoleville Dr
Ukiah, California 95482
Phone: (707) 468-1336
Email: maintenancemgr@pacific.net

Dated: September 3, 2015

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Develop a
Successor to Existing Net Energy Metering
Tariffs Pursuant to Public Utilities Code
Section 2827.1, and to Address Other Issues
Related to Net Energy Metering

Rulemaking 14-07-002
(Filed July 10, 2014)

**NORTHERN CIRCLE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY'S
NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION**

Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority (NCIHA) gives notice of the following ex parte communication, in accordance with California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 8.3. Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority is a tribally designated housing entity established in 1979, to access, construct, and manage housing for member tribes in Mendocino and Butte counties. The Northern Circle board and staff work jointly with tribal leaders to address community issues. NCIHA and its member tribes share responsibility in a joint effort towards the common goal of creating healthy Indian communities working as resources and allies. NCIHA is committed to provide well constructed, well maintained, and affordable homes that promote healthy communities. Overall it is our goal to create safe and healthy communities for families to live in and raise their children.

Today, NCIHA mailed a letter to Commission President Picker to request that the CPUC preserve a strong solar net metering program after the current program sunsets. The letter was signed by seven additional tribes including the Bishop Paiute Tribe, the La

Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe, the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, the Yurok Indian Housing Authority, and the Redwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians. Our tribes note that net metered solar systems “save low-income tribal families money each month on their utility costs, and have helped our tribe work toward its environmental and clean energy goals, and increased residents' pride in our reservation. . . . our tribal members would not be able to benefit as much from solar without the net energy metering structure. ”

Copies of the letter were also mailed to Commissioners Florio, Peterman, Sandoval and Randolph, and to Governor Brown. The letter is attached hereto as Attachment A.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Robert Long

Robert Long

Maintenance/Modernization Manager

Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority

694 Pinoleville Dr

Ukiah, California 95482

Phone: (707) 468-1336

Email: maintenancemgr@pacific.net

ATTACHMENT A



NORTHERN CIRCLE
Indian Housing Authority

694 Pinoleville Dr. • Ukiah, Calif. 95482 • 707-468-1336
Fax 707-468-5615

President Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear President Picker,

On behalf of the tribal members we represent, we write to urge your continued support for net metering, an important state policy facilitating the growth of residential solar in California. More residential solar creates local jobs, reduces the burden of energy costs on our economy, and builds a cleaner energy future for all Californians.

We have been pleased to work in recent years with GRID Alternatives and the Single-family Affordable Solar Homes (SASH) Program to bring solar energy and job training opportunities to our Native American community. The SASH Program has provided opportunities for our tribe's members to receive money-saving energy efficiency services and solar electrical systems, and learn first-hand about solar technologies. The solar electrical systems save low-income tribal families money each month on their utility costs, and have helped our tribe work toward its environmental and clean energy goals, and increased residents' pride in our reservation. The solar electric systems have been able to benefit our tribal members financially because of the strong net energy metering policy in California. Tribal members get compensated for the energy they produce each month and are incentivized to use only what they need.

California's solar market would not be where it is today without net metering, and our tribal members would not be able to benefit as much from solar without the net energy metering structure.

We urge the Commission to maintain net metering without excessive new fees, and to expand opportunities for renters and disadvantaged communities to benefit from net metering. With your continued leadership, California can keep building on our impressive solar momentum, harnessing the power of customer choice and American ingenuity to power us to a clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Darlene Tooley, Executive Director,
Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority

Marvin Hess, Tribal Administrator
Bishop Paiute Tribe

Thomas Rodriguez, Tribal Chairman
La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians

Charles Wood, Tribal Chairman
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe

Robert Vance, Housing Director; and George Gholson, Tribal Chairman
Timbisha Shoshone Tribe

Edwin Smith, EPA Director
Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria

Earl Brown, Executive Director
Yurok Indian Housing Authority

Reno Keoni Franklin, Tribal Chairman,
Redwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians

cc: Governor Jerry Brown
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Liane Randolph