



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

**RAUL A. CAMPILLO**

COUNCILMEMBER • SEVENTH DISTRICT

August 3, 2021

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Docket #: R.20-08-020

**RE: Support of Net Energy Metering**

Dear Governor Newsom,

As a Councilmember in the City of San Diego, I am requesting your support in protecting rooftop solar in California and expanding access to all ratepayers. As the advocate of San Diego's new Equity-Focused Solar Program, the issue of rooftop solar is deeply important to me and to the constituents I represent.

California has long been a leader in adopting solar energy with over one million Californians generating their own renewable energy onsite. More than 75,000 jobs have been created and billions of dollars of economic benefit to the state and there is one policy that is vital to that investment: net energy metering (NEM).

NEM allows individuals and organizations to utilize solar power and clean energy sources. It further recognizes the excess electricity these solar customers put back into the grid, providing them with a bill credit as a result. California's investor-owned utilities are proposing to make changes to NEM that would make it nearly impossible for Californians to harness solar energy. This effort contradicts a clause from Assembly Bill 327 that directs the California Public Utilities Commission to adopt a NEM policy that ensures solar will continue to "grow sustainably." The proposed changes would make going solar more expensive, increase the amount of time it takes to pay off systems, and ultimately has the potential to eliminate the solar market in California.

We should not be taking clean energy solutions away from people. We should be making it easier and more affordable to go solar, especially for individuals in communities of concern.

There are also significant cost-savings for ratepayers. The deployment of more rooftop solar will reduce the need for new, expensive utility infrastructure, potentially saving the state \$473 billion, and not adding rooftop solar would cost ratepayers \$385 billion. Transitioning to clean energy has the potential to create 374,000 new jobs all while reducing CO2 emissions.

Please protect NEM. Drastic changes to the NEM program by the California Public Utilities Commission will negatively impact consumers, perpetuate environmental injustices, accelerate the climate crisis, and shatter California's clean energy industry. As we emerge from the economic and public health crises caused by COVID-19, we urge you to maintain the benefits of solar energy for all Californians and invest in a stronger NEM program for communities of concern.

Sincerely yours,



Raul A. Campillo

RAC:jrm

cc: Members of the California Public Utilities Commission