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September 3, 2014

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Secretary's Bureau  
Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street  
Keystone Building  
Harrisburg PA 17120

Re: Implementation of the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard Act of 2004,  
Docket No. L-2014 2404361

Dear Ms. Chiavetta:

I am writing in reference to the above mentioned Docket No. L-2014 2404361 and rule changes proposed by the Public Utility Commission relating to Alternative Energy installations. Please see my comments below.

I am opposed to the 110% cap proposed for alternative energy installations. Because of my personal concerns about the environment and the long-term costs to our planet of continuous fossil fuel use, I installed a roof top home solar system at my personal residence last year. While I have yet to reach a point of producing 100% of needed electrical power, I believe the proposed cap is contrary to the purpose of the original legislation.

The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard Act was designed to encourage gradual improvements in the quantity of renewable energy utilized by large power distributors in the Commonwealth by providing for net metering of small producers. Smaller producers have undertaken the often substantial investment costs of installing alternative energy systems with the belief that the excess power generated would be used by the larger utilities to supply a higher percentage of cleaner energy. Whether the installation is an urban garden setting fitted with a large solar array, as described in Diana Nelson Jones's article yesterday in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (<http://www.post-gazette.com/news/portfolio/2014/09/02/Diana-Nelson-Jones-Walkabout-New-energy-enlivens-a-corner-lot/stories/201409020022>), or stories about diary farmers that have installed methane digesters to handle waste, generate power, and limit damaging agricultural runoff, we should applaud not limit their production. Net metering customers are already limited in the size of alternative system that can be installed.

As a nation, we are moving very slowly to reduce our energy consumption and to increase the proportion of energy obtained from renewable resources. The proposed regulation to limit net metering further appears to be a step backwards for the Commonwealth and for the environment generally.

Sincerely,

Elsa Limbach