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June 11, 2020

The Honorable Neil Chatterjee, Chairman
The Honorable Richard Glick, Commissioner
The Honorable Bernard L. McNamee, Commissioner
The Honorable James Danly

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Request to deny petition for Docket No. EL20-42-000

Dear Commissioners,

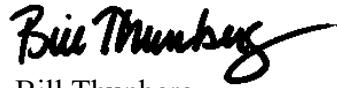
I do not stand with the recent petition lodged by the New England Ratepayers Association (NERA) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to place net metering under federal jurisdiction. As someone who is a former local elected official and a longtime advocate of economic development in North Carolina, I believe this petition contradicts the 20 years of standard where the states have had the ability to regulate their own energy portfolios. I am respectfully asking that FERC refuse to grant this petition.

Solar continues to remain one of the fastest growing industries in the state of North Carolina. By the end of 2019, nearly 6% of our state's electricity sourced from solar and our state was home to over 14,000 solar installations. If granted, it would be nearly impossible for the petition presented by the NERA to effectively design a widespread retail program that models a "one size fits all" approach from the federal government. The beauty behind individual state's having retail authority over net metering is the differing of state legislatures and utility commissions. Given varying regulations, distribution generation models, and energy resource programs, the ratepayers of North Carolina want our state legislators and public utility commissioners to be held accountable for our own state's energy policies. North Carolina doesn't want to operate under the guise of a sweeping federal guideline.

I hope you deny the petition for Docket No. EL20-42-000. Each state has its own set of guidelines and standards that impact the economy and power generation. If the Commission stands with the NERA petition, states run the risk of a loss of energy development, loss of investment, and loss of jobs from state-to-state. We could see a significant decline in the installation of new systems, and less compensation for homes and businesses across the board.

It is my belief that states should continue to set their own rules when it comes to solar energy generated by residential, commercial, and municipal utility consumers. Our individual states should not lose control over net-metering credits provided to the consumer.

Respectfully,



Bill Thunberg

Owner, Alexander Zachary Jewelers
Former Mayor, Town of Mooresville

