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)

CITY OF MODESTO COUNCILMEMBER JOHN GUNDERSON’S
NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION

Dated: June 24, 2015

Councilmember John Gunderson
District 1
Modesto City Council
1010 10th Street, Modesto, CA 95354
Phone: (209) 571-5597
E-mail: JGunderson@Modestogov.com
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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CITY OF MODESTO COUNCILMEMBER JOHN GUNDERSON’S NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION

I, Councilmember John Gunderson, representing District 1 on the Modesto City Council, am giving notice of the following ex parte communication, in accordance with California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 8.3.

Today, June 24, 2015, I sent a letter to Commission President Picker requesting that the Commission continue California’s current net energy metering program beyond 2017, in order to bring more rooftop solar to local communities around the state. The letter was signed by a list representing more than 50 Mayors, Vice Mayors, City Councilmembers and County Supervisors from around the state.

Commissioners Florio, Peterman, Sandoval and Randolph also received copies of the letter, in addition to Governor Brown. The letter is attached hereto as Attachment A.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ John Gunderson
Councilmember, District 1
Modesto City Council
1010 10th Street, Modesto, CA 95354
Phone: (209) 571-5597
E-mail: JGunderson@Modestogov.com
ATTACHMENT A
June 24, 2015

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

Dear President Picker,

As a group of more than 50 mayors, city councilmembers and other local officials from around the state, we urge your continued support for net metering, an important state policy facilitating the growth of rooftop solar in California. More rooftop solar creates local jobs, reduces the burden of energy costs on our economy, and builds a cleaner energy future for all Californians.

Solar power is taking hold across our state, from coastal metropolises to agricultural and industrial hubs in the Central Valley, bringing significant benefits to California. The solar industry employed over 54,000 Californians in 2014, a 16 percent increase from the year before.

California’s rooftop solar market would not be where it is today without net metering, a simple and fair policy that provides a one to one credit on a customer bill for any power exported to the grid, and exempts small local projects from fees designed for larger generating facilities. Over the next 30 years, California schools and government entities that have already installed net metered rooftop solar will save more than $2.5 billion in electricity costs.

It is essential to preserve and expand net metering in order to build on this momentum and bring more solar power to more of our communities. We urge the Commission to maintain net metering without excessive new fees, and 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 the sun and Californians’ ingenuity to power us to a clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Councilmember John Gunderson, City of Modesto  
Councilmember Oliver Baines III, City of Fresno  
Councilmember Mike Bonin, City of Los Angeles 11th District
Councilmember Paul Koretz, City of Los Angeles 5th District
Councilmember Dan Kalb, City of Oakland
Councilmember Max Anderson, City of Berkeley
Councilmember Lori Droste, City of Berkeley
Councilmember Kriss Worthington, City of Berkeley
Councilmember Laurie Capitelli, City of Berkeley
Councilmember Linda Maio, City of Berkeley
Councilmember Jesse Arreguin, City of Berkeley
Supervisor Scott Wiener, City and County of San Francisco
Supervisor Katy Tang, City and County of San Francisco
Councilmember Gordon Siebert, City of Morgan Hill
Councilmember Jim Prola, City of San Leandro
Councilmember Ash Kalra, City of San Jose
Councilmember Don Mosier, City of Del Mar
Councilmember Michael Kasperzak, City of Mountain View
Mayor Don Lane, City of Santa Cruz
Vice Mayor Cynthia Mathews, City of Santa Cruz
Mayor Helene Schneider, City of Santa Barbara
Councilmember Gregg Hart, City of Santa Barbara
Mayor Lisa Heebner, City of Solana Beach
Deputy Mayor Catherine Blakespear, City of Encinitas
Councilmember Lisa Shaffer, City of Encinitas
Mayor Jim Wood, City of Oceanside
Deputy Mayor Chuck Lowery, City of Oceanside
Councilmember Esther Sanchez, City of Oceanside
Councilmember Ted Winterer, City of Santa Monica
Supervisor Christopher Wright, Calaveras County
Supervisor Heidi Ann Ashcraft, Torrance County
Councilmember Tara Martin-Milius, City of Sunnyvale
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
Mayor Michael Winkler, City of Arcata
Vice Mayor Paul Pitino, City of Arcata
Councilmember Susan Ornelas, City of Arcata
City of Eureka
Councilmember Nanette Barragan, City of Hermosa Beach
Councilmember Lori Liu, City of Brisbane
Councilmember Vinnie Bacon, City of Fremont
Supervisor Dave Roberts, San Diego County
Mayor Rick DeGolia, City of Atherton
Supervisor Estelle Fennell, Humboldt County
Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Humboldt County
Mayor Albert Robles, City of Carson

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