

NOI-2014-0001

Iowa Utilities Board Docket NOI-2014-001

**FILED WITH
Executive Secretary
June 24, 2014**

IOWA UTILITIES BOARD

Dear Utilities Board members,

I am a mother who installed a 3.54 Kw solar array on my house. My reason for doing this, is to do my part in helping to curb climate change. I am very concerned for the future of my two girls. I believe that you have a great responsibility as members of this board to do everything you can to promote renewable energy. Iowa should have a policy to encourage renewable energy and distributed generation. We are falling behind other states and are losing the economic stimulus that it provides. Yes, the utilities will have difficulty changing and yes, they will be vocal about it. My children are also very vocal about doing something that they don't want to do, but my job is to do what is best in the long run.

Net metering is a great way to help people to be able to afford a solar or wind installation. Feed in Tariffs would be a great incentive as well. Germany has done very well with this.

Alliant energy is my electric provider. It took a week before I was able to actually turn my solar array on. I have heard that it has taken longer for other customers.

I believe that the public needs to be more informed about the interconnection process. There are a lot of do-it-yourselfers out there and they need to know that they need to communicate with the utility. There was just story on the news about someone who had put up a solar array themselves but were forced to take it down because the utility was going to turn off their electricity! This sends a message that solar is frowned upon by the utility and that it is too much of a hassle. Some of the utilities seem to be ignoring the solar issue right now and they need to inform and encourage their customers.

You as a board should also require the utilities to have rebates for solar & wind DG. It doesn't make any sense to have rebates for a washing machine and not for a solar array. The Alliant rebate was the key linchpin in allowing us to install solar. Why has that been discontinued?

You as a board should require all the utilities in Iowa to net meter. Other states are doing it and we should too.

I sincerely hope that you are looking at the big picture and fully understand how much your decisions can affect the output of carbon dioxide emissions.

Thank you.

Wendy VanDeWalle

Mother