

Tony P Simmons, PE

August 14, 2024,

Senator Dallas Harris

Chair of the Nevada Joint Intermin Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

The Nevada Legislature

401 S. Carson Street

Carson City, NV 89701

RE; August 21, 2024, Workshop

Chair Harris;

On July 31, 2024, I submitted the following recommendation for legislation.

Recommendation: Attorneys employed by the Legal Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau of the Nevada Legislature prepare a report that recommends a special session of the Nevada Legislature be convened to pass legislation directing the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN or Commission) to investigate the costs of and benefits from net metering.

Net metering has been controversial since the program was created in 1997. Multiple paths exist to resolve this long-standing issue. A PUCN investigative docket is the most transparent path to exploring the situation.

However, the normal PUCN process excludes residential and general service customers who are represented by the Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP). Situations arise that prevent BCP from effectively representing these customers. The proposed legislation authorizes these customers to participate as a matter of right. The proposed legislation makes the PUCN regulatory process more inclusive.

A legislative recommendation for a special session emphasizes that this investigation is not business as usual and warrants the attention of the Fourth Estate (free press). The Fourth Estate is an integral, necessary, and underappreciated part of the American legal system that provides a non-governmental forum for discussing issues that must not be discussed in government proceedings.

Valid legal constraints may prevent my proposal from going forward. I respect that and will not be disappointed if the committee's final report excludes my recommendation. Such an exclusion simply points to lengthier, less inclusive, and less transparent paths which may be more effective in resolving the controversies regarding net metering.

I will be available to answer any questions at the workshop scheduled for August 21, 2024.

Respectfully,

Long P. Simmons