

Statement of Lynn Fisher

Thursday September 23, 2010

Hello my name is Lynn Fisher. I am here representing the Mt Pleasant Solar Coop, The Capitol Hill Solar Coop, The Palisades Solar Coop, The Petworth Solar Coop, the Ward 8 Solar Coop, The Brookland Solar Coop, The Brightwood Solar Coop, The Bloomingdale Solar Coop, the Ward 7 Solar Coop, The Connecticut Avenue Neighbors Energy Performance Initiative, the Cleveland Park Energy Coop, and the Riggs Park Solar Time Exchange. We represent thousands of DC residents, homeowners and business that have either already gone solar or hope to in the near future. I am a member of the Mt Pleasant Solar Coop where nearly 70 homes have already become solar energy producers. I am currently in the process of having solar installed on my own home in Columbia Heights.

I am here to register our concern about Pepco's dynamic pricing proposal. Will solar producers be eligible to participate in the dynamic pricing option? If so, how will our solar production be credited to our accounts?

Furthermore, does Pepco envision letting solar producers participate in its critical peak pricing mechanism? If so, if a homeowner produces excess during such a time, how will their peak production be credited?

Will the new smart meters be able to meter both the time and amount of solar produced by home solar producers? Will that information be made available on the homeowner's bill? This issue is critical to us as right now solar producers have a hard time monitoring their systems, knowing if their Net meters are working or knowing if they are being billed correctly. Unfortunately, the answer is often no.

Overall, we are dismayed and concerned that Pepco has not addressed how to integrate solar into its overall plans—especially where there is an obvious fit—in that solar will be providing energy to the system just when Pepco most needs it during peak demand times. We would like to see Pepco begin to work with us to set the appropriate incentives for solar--so that we can help Pepco meet peak electrical demand in DC, reduce the need for new power plants—and thereby reduce costs for all rate payers.

Since Pepco, through its SREC payments only pays for a small portion of going solar—with the homeowner and the Federal government covering the vast majority of the costs we think Solar is a good deal for Pepco and a great deal for the residents of DC.

Pepco is missing a real opportunity—if you can pro-actively find a way to make these new dynamic pricing proposals—become an incentive for solar –you will find a well organized and extremely active group of citizens from all Wards in the City ready to support the idea. If not, you can add us to the list of extremely skeptical rate payers. We understand and support the potential energy savings of these approaches, but Pepco needs to share this benefit with the residents of DC.

Thank You.

As you can see, by the exploding coop movement, DC residents want solar. They are willing to invest their own money to help DC build green jobs here in the city, reduce DC's green house gas emissions, and clean DC's air. When is Pepco going to embrace this movement and become a true partner—rather than a difficult and reluctant obstruction ?