

Lou Mansolillo

From: Doug Sabetti <doug@newportsolarri.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 9:04 AM
To: House Corporations Committee
Subject: Testimony opposing H 7808

Dear clerk Monsolillo,

Please submit this email as testimony in the House Corporations Committee hearing this 21st of March, 2024.

Dear Chairman Solomon and members of the House Committee on Corporations,

My name is Doug Sabetti and I am the owner of Newport Solar, a residential and small commercial solar design and installation company working exclusively in RI since 2009. I am writing in opposition to H 7808 as written as I am out of town and unable to attend in person.

Although for a few years now we have been trying to eliminate the inefficient sizing rule for net metered renewable energy systems limiting production to prior usage, 7808 includes language that has the potential to drastically harm the solar industry in RI.

A solar energy system that is sized to produce 100% of the on-site load annually will naturally overproduce in summer months and underproduce in winter months. This means that in order for a net metered customer to use their summer credits to offset winter electric bills, the credits need to be carried forward on the account through the winter months.

An annual reconciliation on April or May first would allow this to happen, which is the entire value of a net metered solar PV system. If an annual reconciliation occurred during winter months, the value of net metering would vanish, as would the industry that supports net metering, ie; primarily residential and small commercial solar installation companies like Newport Solar.

7808 does not include these critical details, and therefore has the potential to cause great harm to the RI solar industry and the few thousand jobs that depend on it.

Senate bill 2536 does include this critical language and 7808 should match that language to facilitate passage so that RI can finally eliminate the current inefficient process of 'going solar', while allowing the utility to reconcile their accounts annually in a way that does not decimate the RI solar industry and creates a fair policy for people to produce their own electricity, without the ability to profit on overproduction.

I implore you to reject this flawed bill and protect the ability of RI rate payers to generate their own electricity, my job, and the jobs of my employees and all of the jobs net metering supports here in RI.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Doug Sabetti

Doug Sabetti
Newport Solar

NABCEP Cert # 042013-114

doug@newportsolarri.com

401-787-5682