

DOCKETED

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Support for CEC Approval of SMUD's Neighborhood SolarShares Program

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



Chair Hochschild, Commissioners Douglas, McAllister, Monahan, Scott
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Approval of Sacramento Municipal Utility District's Neighborhood SolarShares Program

February 4, 2020

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and its more than 450,000 members and activists in California, we write to express support for approving the Sacramento Municipal Utility District's (SMUD) revised Neighborhood SolarShares program at the February 2020 Business Meeting.

SMUD's revised program meets the 2019 building code requirements and addresses in large part key stakeholder concerns on project size, location, and customer financial benefits. While NRDC supports revisiting the requirements for community solar in the 2022 code update, and we will advocate for economic benefits to the owners of new homes to be on par with those provided by on-site solar, the SMUD proposal meets all the existing requirements that were approved through a public process in the 2019 code update.

NRDC supports a portfolio of on-site, community, and utility-scale solar resources. California is going to need a lot more solar generation to achieve its ambitious 2030 and 2045 renewable and carbon-free electricity goals. On-site, community, and utility-scale solar resources each have a role to play to maximize emissions reductions, affordability, resiliency, and public engagement benefits.

For these reasons, we encourage the Commission to approve SMUD's application at its February 20, 2020 Business Meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

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