

DOCKETED

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IBEW Local 1245 Support for SMUD SolarShare Program

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



30 ORANGE TREE CIRCLE
VACAVILLE, CA 95687
P.O. BOX 2547, VACAVILLE, CA 95696

TOM DALZELL, BUSINESS MANAGER
CECELIA DE LA TORRE, PRESIDENT

(707) 452-2700
FAX (707) 452-2701

7 February 2020

Honorable Members
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SMUD Community Shared Solar System Docket 2019-BTSD-08

Dear Commissioners:

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1245 represents over 21,000 members in California, including approximately 650 members working for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). I am writing to strongly support the Community SolarShares program application submitted by SMUD.

We support allowing community solar programs to enhance and expand customer participation in community scale solar projects, as they are more cost effective and can provide greater benefits to both homeowners and other customers, particularly renters and disadvantaged community customers who cannot access solar energy.

Community scale solar projects provide benefits beyond rooftop solar, including reducing the risk of lost generation from maintenance and performance issues and costs which are significantly less per kWh. Plus, all resources used for SolarShares will be located in SMUD's service territory. SMUD has committed to use local solar resources that are 20 MW or less with backup from other local portfolio resources.

Community solar projects provide for high quality jobs and excellent career opportunities in the construction industry and at SMUD, as well as opportunities for community members to enter workforce training programs to prepare them for a career in construction and/or electrical work.

SMUD has revised its application to ensure the Community SolarShares program will benefit the broadest segment of its customers and community. We urge you to adopt SolarShares.

Sincerely,

TOM DALZELL
Business Manager

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