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On SMUD's SolarShares Newest Proposal

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



COMMUNITY RESOURCE PROJECT, INC.

250 HARRIS AVENUE
SACRAMENTO, CA 95838



February 10, 2020

California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Docket number 19-BSTD-08 SMUD's SolarShares newest proposal

Dear Commissioners,

Community Resource Project (CRP) submits its comments on the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) proposal docketed on January 17, 2020, for their SolarShares program.

We request the commission to not approve this application.

CRP is a 48-year established nonprofit organization delivering energy efficiency and renewable energy programs to low income residents through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Programs for the Sacramento Region. We have invested over \$6.7 million through weatherization measures and solar PV installations serving more than 11,500 low income residents during 2018. We have also prevented over 10,000 utility (SMUD and PG&E) shutoffs through our program.

CRP is a proponent of scalable community solar in which the market can play a role in the creation of renewal energy for our communities; low and moderate income residents.

The purpose of the solar mandate is to add more solar capacity and specifically, adding it to newly constructed homes. Allowing single family home builders to simply "Buy-in" to a big solar farm defeats the intent of the solar mandate and will be a big step backwards for the solar market progression.


Solar can and should be an affordable system of a home-much like a water heater and air conditioning systems. If homebuilders are required to design and build into a house, they will drive down the cost and can increase the reliability of the installations.

CRP believes in the concept of scalable community solar, as an alternative, that converts blighted properties to productive community assets, creates jobs from installation to asset management and promotes economic development where policy investment creates opportunities for stabilizing neighborhoods who have experienced a history of disinvestment.

This is where scalable community solar can play an important role and where the solar developer, the Utility and the residents can equally benefit in an equitable manner.

We don't believe that the SMUD SolarShares program offers these benefits where a wider audience can truly benefit.

Sincerely,


Luis Sanchez,
Chief Executive Officer

