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24 April, 2017

Mr. Nigel Burgess Senior Manager Electricity Analysis and Planning Regulatory Authority 1st Floor Craig Appin House 8 Wesley Street, Hamilton, HM11

Dear Mr. Burgess,

As a solar power system owner and participant, I am very disappointed by the recent order issued by the Regulatory Authority of Bermuda (RAB) on 17th April, 2017 and I am writing to voice my support of the proposed new tariff outlined in section I.C of BELCo's letter to the RAB, dated 16th September 2016.

This section specifically states:

"Under the new tariff, all non-utility scale solar PV installations, residential or commercial, will be compensated for their excess generation based on an avoided cost methodology. There will be no limit in the size of the installation for inclusion in the rate for residential customers; any installation above a capacity of 0.5 MW by a commercial customer will be deemed an independent power producer outside this rate and subject to individual negotiation.

Residential customers will be paid avoided costs for their power after netting the power used and sold by those customers each month. So, for example, if they used 600 kWh and self-generate 500 kWh in a month, they will pay for the 100 kWh at retail price. Conversely, if they use 500 kWh and self-generate 600 kWh, they will be paid and avoided cost price for the excess power."

The new proposed feed in tariff/net billing scheme outlined by the RAB will not only deincentivize investing in solar, it will negatively impact the return on investment that solar PV participants such as ourselves, were expecting when they invested in the this non-polluting, low maintenance form of renewable energy.

I also believe that existing solar net metering customers on the scheme should be grandfathered. Hundreds of Bermuda homeowners like ourselves have made significant investment in solar energy systems based on the financial performance provided by the net metering program. It was understood that new rates would not impact solar clients that had installed, or were proven to be engaged in a residential solar PV contract prior to 15th August 2016. BELCo had also proposed to grandfather all of these customers in their 16th September 2016 submission to the RAB.

Furthermore, it would make more sense if a reasonable term be implemented, so as to assure those who invest in renewable energy cannot have their initial investment disrupted by changes in the rates or implementation of unanticipated tariffs, as defined by the situation we are currently in. A 20 year plus term agreement, with reasonable inflation

rates applied, would assist with de-risking the longer term adaptation of solar energy in Bermuda.

We believe that it is paramount that the RAB considers these elements and implements a reasonable tariff and term so as to encourage the installation of more solar PV systems and support those consumers who have made investments in renewable technology to the benefit of our environment already.

In this day and age, we need more collaboration and promotion of clean energy adaptation, in order to keep more money in our local economy while reducing our contribution to the drastic effects of pollution and climate change.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached via e-mail at: jrw001@hotmail.com, or by telephone on the number listed above.

Yours sincerely,

John Weale