

# SUNPOWER

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
EXEC-FILES-ALBANY

Jaelyn Brillling, Secretary  
Public Service Commission  
Three Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12223-1350

RE: Case 08-E-1305

2012 AUG 14 AM 11:10

Monday, July 30, 2012

Dear Secretary Brillling,

SunPower Corp. (NASDAQ: SPWR) designs, manufactures and delivers the highest efficiency, highest reliability solar panels and systems available today. Residential, business, government and utility customers rely on the company's experience and guaranteed performance to provide maximum return on investment. Headquartered in San Jose, Calif., SunPower has a strong presence in New York. SunPower partners with and supports 27 solar installation companies in New York and has completed dozens of large scale solar projects in the state.

We are submitting these comments to show our support of the petition filed by Hudson Valley Clean Energy, which requests that the Commission act expeditiously to order Central Hudson to raise the cap on the amount of net metered systems allowed to interconnect to its electric grid. We also request that the Commission act to ensure continuity for customers and installers in *every* utility territory and to prevent the halting of interconnections in the future through periodic reviews and increases in utility caps on net metered systems. This is especially important given the State's recent adoption of a program (NY-Sun) to increase the amount of solar energy systems installed in New York through 2016.

Central Hudson recently notified renewable energy system installers and customers in its service territory that it would no longer provide net metering since it has reached its cap of 12 MW (1% of its 2005 demand). If Central Hudson is to cease net metering it will have an immediate negative impact on our ability to sell solar systems and on the many small businesses we work with in New York. These solar installers rely on a continuous stream of projects, and a market disruption of this extent will be very difficult to overcome.

As a company installing solar in New York, net metering is critical to the continued growth of our business in the State. Net metering is a simple, easily administered method of encouraging investment in solar technologies. Without net metering, the ability to grow our business and that of our local partners will be severely reduced.

Central Hudson has the discretion to continue offering net metering past the 12 MW cap. Additionally, Public Service Law authorizes the Commission to increase the ceiling on the total megawatts eligible for net metering from cumulative installations if the Commission determines that additional net metering is in the public interest. SunPower urges the Commission to act expeditiously to ensure continued availability of net metering within Central Hudson's territory. In addition, net metering caps for each utility should be raised significantly enough to cover the expected installations under the NY-Sun program. Continued increases in the use of solar generation benefits the public at large, helps consumers lower their electric bills and allows our business to continue to grow and add jobs.

Respectfully submitted,

James Torpey

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