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August 14, 2012

Jaclyn Brillig, Secretary  
New York Public Service Commission  
3 Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12223

Dear Secretary Brillig:

As you know, Hudson Valley Clean Energy from Rhinebeck, New York has petitioned the Public Service Commission (PSC) to allow for increasing the net metering limits set for Central Hudson Gas and Electric. On behalf of renewable energy consumers, I am writing in support of this request.

I have historically been a strong supporter of legislation which provides for net metering, as well as legislation which expands its availability to businesses, farms and homeowners.

I have shared my concerns over the cap on net metering with Senator Maziarz, Chairman of the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee, who has also written in support of lifting the cap. I echo Senator Maziarz's argument that net metering fosters jobs and creates incentives for renewable energy use.

It is important to also note Governor Cuomo's recent announcement of his NY-Sun Initiative which promotes the installation and use of solar power across New York State. Specifically, the Governor is hoping to double the amount of solar power installations and quadruple that by the year 2013.

In fact, PSC Chair, Gary Brown, has come out in support of the Governor's initiative touting it for its role in the future of New York's important solar industry. The net metering cap at Central Hudson would be contradicting this policy.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Saland  
Senator

SMS/ebc