

July 1, 2020

By Electronic Delivery

Ms. Lora W. Johnson, CMC, LMMC Clerk of Council Council of the City of New Orleans Room 1E09, City Hall 1300 Perdido Street New Orleans, LA 70112 lwjohnson@nola.gov

In Re: RESOLUTION AND ORDER ESTABLISHING A DOCKET AND OPENING A RULEMAKING PROCEEDING TO ESTABLISH RULES FOR COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECTS DOCKET NO. UD-18-03

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Please find enclosed Energy Future New Orleans (EFNO) Groups Letter in the above-mentioned docket. Please file the attached communication and this letter in the record of the proceeding and deliver to all councilmembers. As a result of the remote operations of the Council's office related to COVID-19, EFNO submits this letter electronically and will submit the requisite original and number of hard copies once the Council resumes normal operations, or as you direct. EFNO requests that you file this submission in accordance with Council regulations as modified for the present circumstances. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sophie Zaken

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sophie@all4energy.org

Admin & Program Director

Alliance for Affordable Energy



RE: Docket UD-18-03, Rulemaking Proceeding to Establish Rules for Community Solar Projects (Resolution R-19-111, March 28, 2018)

Dear Councilmembers,

Energy Future New Orleans (EFNO) is writing to bring the Council's attention to the fact that work on developing community solar projects is stalled following a disagreement between the Advisors and Entergy New Orleans. This blocks the progress we need now more than ever in New Orleans for community solar projects that bring shovel ready jobs and move our city forward on an economic recovery from COVID-19 that is sustainable.

The rigorous process of establishing rules for community solar projects spanned nearly a year and included input via intervenor comments, a white paper delivered by the Advisors, a technical conference on May 30, 2019, an implementation plan submitted by Entergy, and the Advisors' comments regarding Entergy's implementation plan.

Inaction holds back the benefits of community solar resources for tens of thousands of households and businesses. As a result of the inaction, developers of community solar projects are uncertain about the status of New Orleans' community solar rules and are unable to move forward. Further inaction on establishing a regulation that allows community solar projects delays urgently needed actions that mitigate the increasing risks of the climate crisis and worsening energy cost burdens.

Innovative community solar projects present a way forward on COVID-19 economic recovery. Most community solar jobs can be performed while maintaining social distancing. Community

solar projects offer a boost to the local job market and opportunity for local workforce development.

EFNO asks that the Council urge the Advisors and Entergy to resolve their disagreements on Community Solar rules so that the City of New Orleans can move forward in building local solar resources that have a multitude of community benefits.

Thank you from the undersigned,

Andy Kowalczyk, 350 New Orleans

Logan A. Burke, Alliance for Affordable Energy

Brent Newman, Audubon Louisiana

Peter Digre, Climate Reality New Orleans

Monique Harden, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice

Reverend Gregory Manning, Justice and Beyond

Grace Morris, Sierra Club

Omar Ewert, Sunrise Movement New Orleans

Dawn Hebert, Lake Willow Homeowners Association