

On Wednesday, May 30, 2007 at 23:37:29, the following data was submitted from <http://www.tva.gov/purpa/comments.htm>

5/30/2007 23:37

Name: Daryl Bergquist
Company: Earth Steward Solar and Energy Efficiency Consulting
Comment on: Net metering
Comment on: Smart metering
Comment on: Interconnection of consumer generation
Comments: Getting to smart metering without a customer revolt is a challenge. If you make Time of Day Usage rates voluntary, only those who benefit sign up and utility loses revenue with little societal or system benefit. Make it mandatory and those with high peak time usage get a huge rate shock. How about a mandatory system that gradually increases the time of day rate differentials toward true real time costs over a several year period?
In the future, smart metering could interface with grid interactive plug in hybrid electric vehicles. These could be charged during low demand and feed power back to the grid during critical demand times.

Re Net Metering:

Substituting the Generation Partners program for net metering sounds good on the surface. Reading carefully, however, raises some questions. The \$0.15 and \$0.20 per kilowatt hour paid under the pilot program is a healthy premium over net metering. The plans are to decrease this significantly. Who pays for the second meter and billing costs? And what about taxes? Will home producers be paying taxes for the power they generate and use themselves? I suggest having a Net Metering Option available. If the Generation Partners program remains a superior option (as it is in it's pilot phase) then people will choose that, if not, then they should have the option of Net Metering.

Re all of above:

interconnection to the grid should be made as simple a process as possible for small scale systems that meet UL safety requirements. There is no need for multiple layers of disconnect switches (the meter itself could serve as a disconnect) along with inverters that also have multiple levels of UL approved and tested safety systems that shut the inverter down in the absence of stable grid power.

In addition to renewable energy powered generation, interconnection should also be made an option for small scale and large scale co-generation, where by using "waste heat" for other uses overall efficiencies can be much greater than with centralized generators.

Daryl Bergquist
Earth Steward Solar Consulting
Blountsville, AL 35031
NABCEP Certified Solar PV Installer
AET Certified Solar Hot Water Installer
City: Blountsville
State: AL
Zip: 35031