

February 23, 2021

Chair Jamie Long 517 State Office Building

St Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for PV Demand Credit bill (HFXXXX)

Dear Chair Long and members of the House Climate and Energy Finance Policy Committee,

iDEAL Energies, LLC, ("iDEAL Energies") hereby submits comments in support of HFXXXX (Hollins) PV Demand Credit Legislation. iDEAL Energies has been involved in the PUC docket 15-115 since its inception that created the reasoning and supporting studies that led to the inception of the Xcel Energy PV Demand Credit Rider. Since 2015, the solar industry, along with the participation of Xcel Energy, studied the effects a larger scale (40kW+) solar array installed on a building has on the customer's energy bill. Over time, the parties came to the conclusion that solar customers with larger solar arrays are overbilled on their demand portion of their bill due to the fact that their solar arrays reduce consumption and grid load significantly on days when their system is operating, yet are billed their peak demand charges on days when the system is underperforming (snow/rain/cloud cover etc.).

The parties then agreed upon a methodology for compensating these customers for the overbilling that was occurring that is now in place for customers in Xcel Energy only. This has opened the market for larger solar arrays to be installed on public buildings and grounds, as well as private businesses throughout the State.

To date, the other investor-owned utilities are required to participate in this docket, but have yet to adopt any mechanism to compensate these customers and have largely avoided participation in this debate.

In conclusion, we support this proposed bill as it would provide the opportunity for demand metered customers in all investor-owned utilities to participate in larger scale on-site solar like Xcel customers.

Respectfully submitted,

Ideal Energies, LLC

Braden Solum

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