

February 20, 2025

Minnesota House of Representatives Committee on Energy Finance and Policy  
Capitol 123  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: House File 845 - Modification to Net Energy Metering

Dear Chair Swedzinski and Committee members,

I'm Mike Overend, a Two Harbors solar homeowner using net metering which helps me make our children's world a better place.

Today's hearing addresses three big issues:

Number One: Net-Metering "pinches" Minnesota cooperative and municipal utilities between their regular electricity providers and home solar energy producers.

Number Two: Electrifying homes and businesses, plus new Electric Vehicles, Data Centers and Artificial Intelligence are all rapidly increasing electricity demand.

Number Three: Reaching Minnesota's 2040 goal of 100% clean electricity needs a creative "All Of The Above" solution, including increasing **home solar and storage everywhere**.

Amending net metering rates will lower homeowners' solar production revenue, making long payback periods worse and discouraging the increased new home solar we truly need by 2040.

An important idea for your committee is how virtual power plants can uniquely help address all these problems.

Virtual power plants offer a new alternative revenue source for home solar while supporting Minnesota's solar industry. Virtual power plants also reliably benefit utilities and their customers with decreased peak energy costs and major savings for grid infrastructure.

Finally, a Minnesota state tax credit on home solar and storage installations and amended net metering revenue would also support this critical energy resource.

Thank You!

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