From: Tamara Staton

To: LRO

Subject: Please support a RETC extension

Date: Friday, June 02, 2017 12:14:36 PM

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Hello,

My name is Tamara Staton, and I'm writing to ask you to extend the RETC.

I'm writing today wearing two hats, both as a business owner of Thriving Solar, and the general manager of Synchro Solar (for whom I'm on contract through Thriving Solar).

As you can imagine, as a consultant working to support small and medium sized solar companies in Oregon, the RETC is integral to the success of my business. When companies have enough income to operate successfully, they are able to put time and resources into hiring consultants like myself to help them on improving team culture and communication, both of which directly impacts the bottom line of a solar company. If we lose the RETC, as happened with the utility incentive in WA last year, the solar industry will plummet, and while I expect it will ultimately return, it will take upwards of many months to years, during which point, I'm confident that we will lose many of the companies that don't have a big enough base to survive the dip.

Which brings me to Synchro Solar. Synchro is one of those companies, along with Elemental Energy, Imagine Energy, & Sunbridge, that may not have a big enough base to survive a severe dip that would occur with the disappearance of the RETC. The pay off goes from 10 to 20 years in many cases, which just doesn't have it penciling out soon enough for the majority of the middle class -- a huge customer base for us.

I have a family, my daughter is 8 and in the 2nd grade. We depend upon this income. There are 11 other employees at Synchro, all of whom claim Synchro is their only place of employment. They will be up against job loss, if not serious pay cuts, if the RETC is lost.

Thank you for taking this into consideration. Please extend the RETC.

Sincerely,
Tamara Staton
Owner, Thriving Solar
www.thrivingsolar.com

Tamara Staton | General Manager
(p) 503-703-7058 (e) tamara@synchrosolar.com
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