From: <u>dfscheipe@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Dawn Scheipe</u>

To: comments, EMP

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ensure solar is a cornerstone of New Jersey"s energy system

Date: Thursday, August 30, 2018 12:55:49 PM

Dear New Jersey Board of Public Utilities,

As a New Jersey resident and ratepayer, I urge the Board of Public Utilities to prioritize distributed renewable energy in the update of New Jersey's 2019 Energy Plan.

Our current electric grid is outdated, vulnerable to extreme weather events, and inadequate to meet our state's energy challenges. Instead of a centralized and static system, New Jersey's electric system should put rooftop solar at the cornerstone. This will allow us to have resilient, local power in our communities and the ability to benefit from our own energy production.

Declining costs for solar and storage technology make clear that the key to the modern grid will be distributed rooftop solar coupled with battery storage and electric vehicles. We do not need to rely on energy generated hundreds of miles away and transmitted through vulnerable infrastructure. Solar plus storage allows us to power our grid safely with a dependable and affordable fuel supply that generates economic benefits and jobs throughout the Garden State.

Thank you for planning wisely for New Jersey's energy future.

Sincerely, Dawn Scheipe Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 dfscheipe@gmail.com