

Net Metering

I strongly oppose the proposed elimination of net metering for residential solar customers, and I urge the committee to reject this aspect of SB 9.

- The recent experience in Nevada, where the curtailing of net metering resulted in a 92% drop in new residential solar installations in the first quarter of 2016 should serve as a model – or warning- of what we could expect to happen in Connecticut.*
- According to a recent NY Times report, over the past six years, rooftop solar panel installations have seen explosive growth — as much as 900 percent by one estimate.*
- That growth has come to a shuddering stop this year, with a projected decline in new installations of 2 percent, according to projections from Bloomberg New Energy Finance.*
- A number of factors are driving the reversal, but the decline has also coincided with a lobbying campaign by traditional utilities, which have been working in state capitals across the country to reverse incentives for homeowners to install solar panels and thus maintain fossil fuel based electricity generation and traditional revenue streams.*
- In all studies of the economic impacts of distributed generation (excluding those that were funded by utility companies) on all ratepayers, not just those with PV systems, there was a net benefit to the production of clean energy under a net metering system.*
- The elimination of net metering may help utilities hold on to more customers. However, in a time of falling solar costs, rising solar industry [employment](#) and urgent needs to curtail greenhouse gas emissions, it is hard to see how policies unfavorable to solar would benefit society overall.*

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