

Rooftop Solar and Battery Access for All Californians

WHEREAS rooftop solar and battery storage are the most effective clean energy solutions to reduce energy bills, avoid blackouts, and reduce the high cost of long-distance energy transport from solar and wind farms, thus saving ratepayers money, and protecting open space; and

WHEREAS the California Public Utilities Commission recently issued a decision that vastly reduced the credit value for energy exported to the electric grid for consumers, and is now considering changes to net energy metering rules for multi-meter properties, which would impact multifamily renters, schools, and farms; and

WHEREAS the California Public Utilities Commission recently issued a proposed decision that sides with the investor-owned utilities and would deny multi-meter properties the ability to buy less power from the utilities when they consume power directly from on-site solar, which would force renters, schools, and farms to buy all of their power from the utility even when it is generated on their own rooftop or field – an unfair proposal that would allow customers with only one electric meter to distinguish between on-site usage and exports while not allowing customers with multiple meters to do the same;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party supports giving all Californians, including multifamily renters and students, access to the full benefits of rooftop and distributed solar and battery storage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party affirms efforts to move California closer to its goal of tripling rooftop and distributed solar and to ensure the continued viability of rooftop and distributed solar and battery storage for multi-meter properties so all Californians may have access.

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