

1 [Urging the California Public Utilities Commission to Reject Pacific Gas and Electric  
2 Company's Proposed Increases to Net Energy Meeting Fees]

3 **Resolution urging the California Public Utilities Commission to reject Pacific Gas and**  
4 **Electric Company's proposed increased fees for solar customers, and to support**  
5 **extending net energy metering so that solar customers continue to receive a fair price**  
6 **for excess electricity they export to utilities.**

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8 WHEREAS, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's August 2015 report, "Tracking  
9 the Sun VII," estimates that the total installed price of residential photovoltaic facilities  
10 decreased by more than 50% between 2009 and 2014; and

11 WHEREAS, As of September 2014, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
12 reported that the City's GoSolarSF incentive program has led to 10.5 megawatts of solar  
13 systems being installed in the City; and

14 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment reports that there are now over 5000  
15 solar installations in San Francisco; and

16 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment estimates that the City could generate  
17 up to 7% of our total electricity needs by maximizing rooftop solar facilities in the City; and

18 WHEREAS, California's net energy metering (NEM) program provides for electricity  
19 customers who install renewable power generation facilities to deliver excess electricity they  
20 generate back to their electricity provider; and

21 WHEREAS, By allowing property owners to receive utility bill credits for excess solar  
22 power, NEM creates an important incentive for customers to install rooftop solar; and

23 WHEREAS, Virtual net metering allows multiple tenants at a property to share the  
24 electricity produced by a single solar energy system; and

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1           WHEREAS, The September 2012 report from the Mayor’s Renewable Energy Task  
2 Force recommended that the “City should participate in relevant regulatory proceedings and  
3 encourage the California Public Utilities Commission to update net energy metering rules and  
4 participation limits to better reflect actual technical constraints to distributed generation  
5 integration and current costs and benefits of increased on-site distributed generation;” and

6           WHEREAS, California Public Utilities Code Section 2827 requires all electricity utilities  
7 to offer solar customers a NEM tariff; and

8           WHEREAS, 2013’s Assembly Bill 327 requires the California Public Utilities  
9 Commission (CPUC) to develop a successor to the existing NEM program by December 31,  
10 2015 that will go into effect when the utilities meet the current program cap starting in 2016;  
11 and

12           WHEREAS, The California Public Utilities Commission is currently developing a  
13 successor to the NEM tariff through Rulemaking 14-07-002; and

14           WHEREAS, Solar power advocates have raised a number of concerns about PG&E’s  
15 proposal for the NEM successor tariff; and

16           WHEREAS, Vote Solar, a non-profit organization promoting solar power, analyzed  
17 PG&E’s proposal and described a number of issues that would disincentivize new solar  
18 installations, including:

- 19           - adding a new monthly demand charge for residential solar customers of \$3/kW,  
20           which PG&E estimates would be about \$14.50/month for an average customer;
- 21           - requiring solar customers to pay new interconnection costs of \$100 or more;
- 22           - paying solar customer an average of \$0.09/kilowatt hour for their excess clean  
23           energy, which is significantly lower than retail price;
- 24           - limiting virtual net metering; now, therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the CPUC to reject PG&E’s proposal  
2 for the NEM successor tariff; and, be it

3           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the CPUC to continue to  
4 maintain net metering without excessive new fees; and, be it

5           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the CPUC to adopt rules  
6 that ensure that customers receive a fair price for excess electricity they export to utilities;  
7 and, be it

8           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board  
9 to transmit copies of this resolution to the CPUC and San Francisco’s representatives in the  
10 State Legislature.

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