

12/2/05

To: Office of the Governor, Washington State  
CTED  
WUTC

Subject: SB5101

I own a photovoltaic solar system which can generate two kilowatts. In fact, my system, over a three year period has produced approximately 2000 kwh per year. During that period, my system has been connected to the grid under the provisions of the State's net metering legislation.

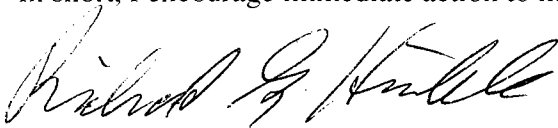
My solar arrays, which are located on my property (in the Olympia area) on the corner of South Bay and 26th Avenue, NE, are highly visible to motorists on South Bay, a heavily traveled thoroughfare. Consequently, many interested persons stop to get more information on solar-generated electricity. In addition, my home is one of the stations in the annual Solar Tour. Altogether, I estimate that I give orientations to about fifty visiting individuals and family groups every year. If these visitors could be persuaded to install systems of their own, there would be a significant increase in small-scale solar energy generation in this area. The problem is to show them how they can afford to buy such systems. With the implementation of SB5101, many would have the necessary financial incentive to act.

Obviously, every day that implementation of SB5101 is delayed, is another day lost in the effort to broaden the State's inventory of non-polluting renewable energy sources..

Having been a participant in the net metering program for three years, I can vouch for the fact that the interconnection system is effective. It not only reduces the electricity bill of the household, it encourages the generation of "green" electricity. Further, coupled with the benefits of SB5101, the incentive to gain new participants is substantial.

Finally, I must point out that all of the private households that could become small-scale generators of renewable energy will certainly fall within the 25 kw limit specified by SB5101.

In short, I encourage immediate action to make SB5101 a functioning reality.



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