Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street

PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265 AUG 2 0 2014

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

2014-2404361

AUG 1 2 2014

PUC Commission;

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION SECRETARY'S BUREAU

It has come to our attention that the Public Utilities Commission is considering a rule change that would limit the amount of excess electric a dairy farm with an anaerobic digester can sell on a retail basis back to the grid. More importantly, if enacted this rule change would discourage or preclude dairy farmers like the Benners at Yippee Farm from building or enlarging a digester.

From our perspective as neighbors of Yippee Farms, the digester the Benners built and operate is a tremendous benefit for their farm and for our community. The digester handles their manure so efficiently and responsibly that it has reduced odor issues for us to the point that we hardly know there are cows nearby.

The Benner family are great neighbors and have run their dairy farm well over the years. We would never have caused them issues over odor, but since building their digester, the odor is greatly reduced which we appreciate. And knowing that they are not only making the neighborhood more comfortable and keeping the manure from polluting the water with this new technology, but that they are also generating energy to power our area is like having a win, win, win; a win for the environment, a win for alternative energy and a win for our neighborhood. It should also be a win for the farm families who are producing food in this responsible manner.

We know digesters require a large investment of money to build and operate so we want them to be able to support their investment in the digester by selling energy to the grid.

Please don't take away the farmer's ability to sell their excess energy to the grid and please don't enact a rule that will discourage farmers like the Benners from investing in and building digesters. We support the ability of the farmer to pay off their investment in the digoster by selling excess energy from the digester to the grid.

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Pennsylvania PUC

Thank you.

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Neighbors of Arlin and Deborah Benner - Yippee Farms

Consumer Services

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