

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115  
Majority (202) 225-2927  
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October 23, 2017

Mr. Todd Glass  
Counsel  
Solar Energy Industry Association  
701 Fifth Avenue; Suite 5100  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Glass:

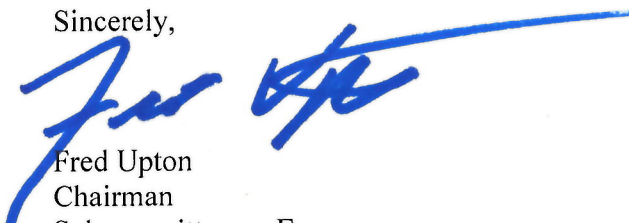
Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, to testify at the hearing entitled "Powering America: Reevaluating PURPA's Objectives and its Effects on Today's Consumers."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Monday, November 6, 2017. Your responses should be mailed to Allie Bury, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to [Allie.Bury@mail.house.gov](mailto:Allie.Bury@mail.house.gov).

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Fred Upton  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy

cc: The Honorable Bobby L. Rush, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy

Attachment

## **Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record**

### **The Honorable Fred Upton**

1. State policies are driving growth in renewable generation. Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS), tax credits, competitive procurement requirements, and net metering programs are just a few of them.
  - a. In light of these more recent pro-renewable policies and mandates (since 1978), do we still need PURPA to drive renewable development?
2. If we set aside PURPA for a moment, do you believe that state policies (*including integrated resource planning (IRP), competitive procurement requirements, net metering, and renewable portfolio standards*) are stable enough to provide a reliable investment climate for renewable generation?
3. As it stands now, under section 292 of FERC's regulations (18 CFR § 292), the "one-mile rule" is not rebuttable and utilities have little recourse to challenge QF projects that attempt to game this restriction.
  - a. Should FERC revise its regulations to allow utilities to demonstrate that a QF developer is attempting to split a single large project into multiple smaller ones to receive the benefits of PURPA?
4. You testified that QFs are being offered un-financeable contract terms, curtailment practices, discriminatory interconnection processes, and unreasonable avoided cost rates. What is a financeable term in your view?
  - a. What changes do you want to see and who should make them (Congress or FERC)?
5. If PURPA was no longer in effect, how do you think it would affect consumer electricity rates and the future development of renewable energy, cogeneration facilities, and waste-to-energy facilities?

### **The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.**

1. As it relates to solar energy procurements for PURPA and non-PURPA contract agreements, how common are long-term contracts exceeding 20 years?
2. What benefits do ratepayers receive when utilities enter into fixed-price contracts?
  - a. How do these benefits compare to the benefits of self-built generation?

3. How does the solar industry address the interconnection costs that are associated with QF projects?
4. How do you recommend state public utility commissions incorporate QF development into state resource planning?