January 4, 2018

Docket No. M-2017-2631527
Implementation of Act 40 of 2017

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Commonwealth Keystone Building
2nd Floor, Room-N201

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

As the Commission considers the Tentative Implementation Order for Act 40 of 2017, I wish to offer my perspective as one of the legislative advocates for the geographical limits on solar photovoltaic systems (solar PV) in advance of a final Commission decision. Act 40 established geographical limits on solar photovoltaic systems that qualify for the solar PV share requirements of the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act. The Commission has the responsibility for implementing the provisions of Act 40 and there appears to be some question as to how the act is to be interpreted.

It is my unqualified belief that the intent of this legislation was to “close the borders” and ensure that electric distribution companies would have to purchase solar renewable energy credits from solar facilities within the Commonwealth. This has been my goal and the goal of the Legislature for several sessions. Any other interpretation of the legislation would render it meaningless and contrary to the will of the General Assembly.

I am in full agreement with the statement of Chairman Brown and Vice Chairman Place issued at the December 21, 2017 Commission meeting whereas the language in Section 2804(2)(i) is interpreted to mean a “facility located within Pennsylvania having received an AEPS Tier I solar photovoltaic share certification.”

I look forward to the Commission’s implementation decision and a renewed expansion of solar energy systems in our Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Mike Carroll
State Representative
118th Legislative District
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Commonwealth Keystone Building
2nd Floor, Room-N201