BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

MISS. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FILE

APR 0 2 2021

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

2021-AD-19

IN RE:

REVIEW THE EFFICACY AND FAIRNESS OF THE NET METERING AND INTERCONNECTIONRULES

COMMMENTS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Attorney General's Office continues to support the Public Service Commission's ("PSC") efforts in developing an effective net metering program to utilize renewable energy, improve grid interconnection, and provide more choices for consumers.

Mississippi enacted net metering five years ago. Since then, we have seen modest growth, but we have much more potential.¹ Investments like the recently approved Moonshot Solar project in Hancock County and the Cane Creek Solar project in Clarke County are likely to spur new consumer interest in solar energy and encourage additional similar projects.

As the PSC created this five-year benchmark, it is important to revisit our net metering policy to ensure that as renewable energy grows in our state, our rules are capable of adapting to meet the needs of this expansion and to continue learning from other states' best practices. Additionally, once we have more data on solar usage in

¹With just 34,285 homes using solar energy and less than 1% of our energy production coming from solar, Mississippi ranks 32nd in solar adoption. SEIA, State Solar Spotlight: Mississippi Mississippi.pdf (seia.org).

Mississippi, we will be in a better position to evaluate the efficacy of our current rules and make any needed changes.

As the use of net metering expands, the Attorney General's Office looks forward to continuing our work with the utilities, PSC's counsel, Board of Contractors, and Fire Marshall to evaluate and address consumer concerns. Ultimately, consumers remain at the core of our shared mission and should continue to guide the decision-making process.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, this the 2nd of April, 2021.

BY: LYNN FITCH, ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

<u>/s/Hart Martin</u> HART MARTIN SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

State of Mississippi

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**MPSC Electronic Copy ** 2021-AD-19 Filed on 04/02/2021 **

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Hart Martin, Special Assistant Attorney General, hereby certify that I have this date electronically filed and thereby delivered a true and correct copy of the foregoing Comments to the Mississippi Public Service Commission staff and counsel and to all intervenors.

This the 2nd of April, 2021.

<u>/s/ Hart Martin</u>

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