Joint Stakeholder Proposal for Arizona's Future Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Resource Planning Policies

Background:

- With current energy rules expiring within the next few years, new rules need to be implemented to reflect the recent changes in the energy industry and utility planning.
- 25 stakeholders from faith-based, consumer-based, environmental-based, for-profit organizations have agreed on a set of principles that should guide the Arizona Corporation Commission's energy rules through the year 2050.
- These principles are built on existing, successful ACC policies and address aspects of current proposals from different Commissioners.

Components of the Joint Stakeholder Proposal:

- Clean Energy Standard (CES): 100% clean energy by 2045; the framework for all energy procurement and resource planning decisions into the future.
- Renewable Energy Standard (RES): 50% renewable energy by 2030; replaces 2006 Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff (REST)
- Distributed Renewable Energy Requirement (DRER): 10% distributed generation by 2030; replaces the 2006 Distributed Generation(DG) carve-out that required a portion of the REST to come from DG.
- Energy Efficiency Standard (EERS): 35% cumulative energy efficiency by 2030
- Integrated Resource Planning (IRP): A more comprehensive and robust process.
- Just Transition: Support for communities impacted by power plant closures.

Comparing the Existing REST with the Stakeholder Proposed RES:

Existing REST	Stakeholder Proposed RES
 Adopted in 2006. Requires regulated electric utilities to obtain Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)¹ from eligible renewable energy resources to meet 15% of their retail electric load by 2025. Each regulated utility must add more renewable energy every year, starting at 1.25% and ending at 15%. 30% of the RECs must come from distributed generation (DG)² by 2012 and thereafter. 	50% renewable energy by 2030. Eliminates extra credit multipliers. No biomass carve-out. Requires filings to include the type and scale of projects proposed near communities impacted by plant closures and reasons why those projects were selected or rejected.

Renewable Energy Credits are tradable, non-tangible energy commodities that prove that 1 megawatt-hour (MWh) of electricity was generated from an eligible renewable energy resource.

² A distributed generation used small-scale technology to produce electricity close to the end-user. An example of this would be rooftop solar.

Comparing the Existing EERS with the Stakeholder Proposed EERS

Existing EERS	Stakeholder Proposed EERS
 Adopted unanimously in 2010. Requires regulated electric utilities to achieve 22% energy savings by 2020 (energy savings of 20% of retail energy sales by 2020, plus 2% for reductions from demand response) Requires regulated cooperatives to meet 75% of these requirements. 	Maximizes least-cost energy efficiency and reduces regulatory barriers. Requires cumulative energy-savings of at leas 35% by 2030 (aligns With Commissioner Dunn's Proposal). Proposes changes to cost-effectiveness screening to be in alignment with national practices.

Comparing the Existing IRP Rules with the Stakeholder Proposed IRP Rules

2010 IRP	Proposed IRP Rules
 Adopted in 2010. Meant to provide meaningful opportunities for energy efficiency and renewable energy to compete with conventional resources. Utility performance in rate cases and proceedings. 	 Robust stakeholder engagement and access to modeling software, assumptions, and work papers. ACC can decide to acknowledge or not acknowledge IRP plan. ACC reviews any updates to IRP before deployment.

How It All Comes Together:

- Joint stakeholder proposal ensures that low-cost and local resources that provide maximum net benefits to society are first considered in utility's IRP process.
- CES is the foundation for all energy resource considerations for Arizona's electric utilities.
- RES ensures that Arizona's most prominent and affordable resources are used first and foremost within our state.
- DRER ensures that customer's choice for distributed generation will be allowed and protected.
- EERS ensures that the most cost-effective resources are deployed, while also providing customers direct opportunities to save on their electric bills, and utilities opportunities to reduce and shift peak and total demand.
- IRP process will enable compliance and accountability with these standards.
- Just transition support will ensure that a switch to a low-carbon economy will not devastate communities whose economies are driven by conventional power sources.