In January 2023, the Holy Cross Board of Directors approved a new rate design that significantly reduces how solar and distributed energy resources are compensated. Holy Cross proposes to unilaterally redefine net metering, the law that allows consumers to offset their electrical usage with their own renewable energy generated on-site at the full retail rate. At a time when we need to add more renewables to the electric grid and homes are electrifying in response to local climate action policies, now is not the time to undermine long-standing net metering policies.

Please join us to **demand Holy Cross reconsider this new rate proposal**.

**Allow us to explain…**

- Net metering is the state law for electric cooperatives passed in 2008 that allows consumers to offset their electrical usage with their own renewable energy generated on-site at the full retail rate.

- State net metering law exists as an incentive to consumers willing to make the investment to support Colorado's transition to clean energy.

- Holy Cross proposes to unbundle this full retail rate into four separate parts: a consumer charge, a peak demand charge, a delivery charge, and an energy charge.

- Holy Cross proposes to limit on-site renewable generation as an offset to the energy charge only.

- This will significantly erode the compensation solar customers receive for the electricity they send back to the grid. Solar customers without a battery will likely not see a positive return on their investment for 21 to 22 years. Solar and battery customers will likely not see a positive return on their investment for 14 years. Both of these payback terms extend years beyond the guaranteed life of the equipment.

- This will decimate future solar adoption in Holy Cross's territory, undermine local climate action policies, and shortchange existing solar customers' investments in clean energy.

**Here's where we are at…**

- The Holy Cross Board approved the rate restructure at their January 18, 2023 meeting.

- The Board is currently taking member comments on their decision until April 30, 2023.

- Holy Cross intends to implement the new rate proposal on Sept. 1, 2023, unless Holy Cross members and clean energy advocates can convince them not to.

**Our ask is…**

- Send your comments to Holy Cross Board of Directors **by April 30, 2023**

- Send a comment to the Governor's Office

- Send a comment to the Colorado Public Utilities Commission:
  File a Comment or Complaint from the PUC homepage or
  email dora_puc_website@state.co.us

- Sign COSSA's petition demanding Holy Cross reconsider its new rate structure

- Contribute to COSSA's legal fund to ensure we are able to match the utility's resources. Contact Stefanie Bednar to discuss this option.

**Here's why…**

- Holy Cross is unilaterally re-defining state law. Any policy change to net metering should occur through our elected representatives.

- Holy Cross has long been a leader on climate change issues and at the forefront of renewable energy policy. Their actions are likely to have repercussions across the state, unwinding two decades of progressive renewable energy policy.

- Holy Cross claims this is to keep up with a changing industry and increasing system costs. A mere 4% of Holy Cross customers currently have net meters, and Holy Cross's financials are among the strongest in the state. Holy Cross is looking to solve a problem it doesn't have.

- Holy Cross offers to buy out existing net metered customers with two payment options. The proposed rate increase far exceeds the value of these payment options, undercutting existing solar customers who were early supporters of the clean energy transition.

- Changes in federal climate and tax policy are finally making solar adoption a viable option for middle and lower-income customers.  Holy Cross's rate change will work at cross purposes, disincentivizing solar precisely at the time it finally comes within financial reach for more consumers.