CRES recommends that 1:1 net-metering at retail rates needs to be reformed to enable rooftop solar to scale up without significant cost-shifts to non-solar customers.

However, the two rates proposed by Colorado Springs Utilities are discriminatory. The simple presence of any size of net-metered solar would trigger new rates—only for solar households. The first rate would raise the bill dramatically with a fixed fee without regard to how the household used energy or how much it used. It is assuming that the presence of solar is the problem--not how much it costs to serve the household with electricity.

Similarly, the second rate would impose a rate schedule based primarily on demand charges that would not apply to any non-solar household.

Any new rates should apply equally to all households based on when they use electricity, how much electricity they use, and how this affects the cost to the utility of serving the customer.