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In 2017 I decided to attend a meeting at a local Library about the potential of adding Solar Power to one's house. This interested me because I was concerned about the effects of carbon based fuels on our environment. I wanted to make a decision that would show my two young grandchildren what adults were doing to try and leave a better world in which to grow up. In that same vein, in 2019 I also decided to purchase a used electric vehicle as my mode of transportation.

I got some pushback comments from people such as "you will never recoup your initial investment (as if I was recouping investment from my, at the time, current energy supply system)", or "there are not enough sunny days in Ohio for that to be worthwhile". Of course, these types of comments seemed to ignore that those were not the reasons for which I was investigating Solar in the first place. But, they did make me wonder if I was making a prudent decision. The Solar Installer we eventually used gave me several references to contact. I did my due diligence and called. Listening to the references responses helped to quell my doubts and in the Fall of 2019 we had a Solar System installed on our house. Prior to using the system, and while using a gas powered car, we had a monthly budget electric bill of \$105 per month. Being that I was retiring from my teaching job and looking for ways to reduce my monthly expenses I hypothesized the Solar system might knock my bill down to something like less than \$50 per month. That seemed reasonable to me. I was about to be pleasantly surprised.

Thanks to a win/win net meter program from our electric supplier in which they get free energy from our overproduction, we had several small electric bills for the winter months in 2020, and then absolutely no cost until a \$14 bill this past February. All this while charging an electric car nightly. So not only have we enjoyed a house completely free of electric expense, but I have had zero transportation expense (except registration and insurance) as well.

I take a lot of satisfaction from knowing I am doing something to help make the world a better place for my grandchildren and easing my living expenses while in retirement at the same time. My story is that of one individual, but I can only imagine the immense amount of good will and net positive effect that would be provided communities that go this direction. Incidentally, I am more than happy to serve as a reference to anyone with concerns about switching to Solar!