Following the Arizona House and Senate's passage of House Bill 2101, Mark Parsons, vice president and general manager of Green Mountain Energy, released the following statement:

Green Mountain filed a license with the Arizona Corporation Commission last summer to serve customers in Arizona. Since that time, we have executed a Letter of Intent to purchase new, locally constructed solar energy. And we have patiently waited for the Arizona Corporation Commission to conduct a hearing on the merits of our application, where all parties could ask us questions about our business model.

We were disappointed that Arizona's utilities have aggressively maneuvered to deny their customers options for alternative providers by introducing HB 2101, which repeals the statutory basis for us to receive a license to operate in the state, but we were not surprised: Monopolies do not like competition. HB 2101 would close down our opportunity to receive a license to operate under state law without even a hearing in Arizona. We regret that outcome.

We have been looking forward to investing and serving customers in Arizona for several reasons:

- First, Arizonans told us they want choice: 84% of those polled said they wanted options other than utility monopolies in their energy supply. Arizona is a growing state, and new businesses in particular want choices and do not expect to be required by government to take service from a single provider.
- Second, Arizona has avoided aggressive governmental mandates for clean energy, and this creates a landscape where consumers, acting on their own, are able to transform the energy economy through their own choices—but only if they have access to products like the ones Green Mountain offers.
- Third and finally, Arizona's regulated energy rates have not been disciplined by competition and have lost their relationship with underlying costs. U.S. Energy Information Administration data show that Arizona's utility rates for small businesses have increased 37% since 2001, even while rates have decreased in the largest competitive markets where we do business. In short, Arizona is a state where our premium-renewable products could be cost-competitive, within the bounds of the Arizona Constitution's requirement for fair rates and with our customers continuing to pay utilities for the reliability services they provide.

Consequently, we are disappointed that HB2101 repeals the statutory basis for us to receive a license to operate in the state. That is a legal prerequisite for us to be able to do business. Some have suggested that HB 2101's passage, which leaves a policy vacuum in this space, would simply allow the Arizona Corporation Commission to adopt whatever rules about competition it desires, and that this may nevertheless provide Green Mountain an entry into the state. Simply put, it is not reasonable for Green Mountain to invest in a business model exclusively built around a majority vote of the Arizona's elected utility regulator, without a statutory pathway to licensing, but that is what HB 2101 would in essence require us to bet on.

We look forward to continuing this conversation, and we are frustrated that utilities have rejected any attempt to compromise on this legislation, instead favoring an absolute position that would deny customers innovative, clean, and affordable options in energy supply. We urge Governor Ducey to avoid

an outcome that would take away choices from Arizona homeowners and businesses when it comes to their energy supply.

Green Mountain Energy Company is the nation's longest serving renewable energy retailer and believes in using wind, sun, and water for good. The company was founded in 1997 with a simple mission: to change the way power is made. Green Mountain offers consumers and businesses in seven states the choice of cleaner electricity products from renewable sources, as well as a variety of carbon offset products and sustainable solutions for businesses. Green Mountain customers have collectively helped avoid 90 billion pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. To learn more about Green Mountain, visit greenmountainenergy.com.