

Avoiding Renewable Energy Scams

General characteristics of scammer methods:

1. They come uninvited to the PIC.
2. They avoid the utility and go directly to Cabinet, the President, or the utility Board
3. They have a new renewable energy technology that is innovative and markedly better than the technology that is currently being used

4. They claim that the PIC looks ideal for this new technology and should be installed there as a demonstration for the world
5. They will install the new technology at their own cost and sell the electricity to the PIC at a price lower than other generation options
6. All that is needed is a feasibility study that the PIC must pay for to be a part of the 'deal'
7. After the study they say, sorry it is not feasible and depart – taking \$50,000-\$100,000 for the 'study'

If the 'new technology' is as good as they say and does indeed fit the situation at the PIC, even if installed for free and there is no cash outlay by the PIC, there is still risk that it will not work.

1. Wasted time
2. Delaying adding other RE because of expected generation from the new technology
3. Environmental impacts
4. Storm damage to the installation that causes collateral damage to the utility system

Discussion