

Media Release

30 April 2021

Draft guide for solar export price released

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal is proposing that customers could expect to receive 4.4 to 5.9 c/kWh for their solar exports in 2021-22.

Tribunal member Ms Gamble said that customers will continue to make significant savings on their bills by using the electricity they generate by solar panels.

She stressed that these savings are much more significant than those achieved by the solar feed-in-tariff.

"A typical customer can save \$750 per year on their electricity bills by using electricity they generate with their solar panels, instead of buying this electricity from their retailer.

In comparison, they would earn about \$200 per year in feed-in tariff revenue," Ms Sandra Gamble said.

"Our draft guide is lower than the most recent years due to decreasing wholesale electricity prices," said Ms Sandra Gamble.

"Lower forecast wholesale prices mean that retail electricity prices are likely to decrease, providing savings to customers through reduced electricity bills," said Ms Sandra Gamble.

Solar customers also receive an upfront subsidy for installing their panels under the Small-Scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES) to reflect the avoided costs of carbon emissions.

For a 5 kW solar system installed in Sydney, the subsidy is currently worth around \$2,600.

Electricity retailers in NSW set their own prices. IPART's benchmark provides a guide for solar customers on the likely wholesale value of electricity exported to the grid from solar panels.

Many retailers offer solar feed-in prices above IPART's guide. Customers should consider all aspects of a retailer's offer including usage and fixed charges. The offer with the highest feed-in tariff may not be the best deal overall.

Submissions to IPART's Draft Report can be made until 24 May 2021.

More details are available on our website.

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