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Submission: My submission is individual but I am a Sustainability officer at a local council. We have had a lot of feedback about the feed-in tariff being inadequate. It is putting people off from installing solar, and it is making the payback on installation much longer than is regularly advertised by solar businesses.

Australia has a much much lower feed in tariff than most other countries. Germany has a much higher tariff and has had much higher success in farmers and households introducing solar on all available roof tops. Its a real shame that Australia does not follow suit, especially given the long sunshine hours here.

My household has a very large roof which is highly suitable for solar but the 10,000 price tag is too high, and the long repay period because of low tariffs makes it pointless to install panels, especially as we are at work and not using power during the day. We have long been interested but the current tariffs make it prohibitive.

Really the low tariff simply protects the coal industry, whereas coal or other night time generation (wind) could be supplementing day time distributed solar production, if the system allowed for it.

Futhermore, small scale reversible water wheels with a small storage lake could provide storage for electricity production during peak times. This would make use of ample day time production without relying on coal and without creating large scale ecological disasters as do big hydro dams.

Thanks for making comment available.
regards

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