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Submission: "To IPART,

We Australians now know that rooftop solar has reduced the wholesale price of power for every Australian. This is a positive reason to pay solar owners a fair price for their assistance, particularly to domestic owners as then more power can be freed up and supplied for essential services and businesses. It is grossly unjust to punish solar owners for bringing down electricity prices for all.

The feed-in tariff should represent the true value of our solar contribution, especially when environmental issues have become more serious on a global scale. Every household contributing to the grid now should be honestly supported and paid fairly. Health benefits should also be taken into consideration. The less pollution producing ways of getting energy that we can use, the better. Solar is a powerful way to prevent our ever increasing dirty world.

Retailers in NSW, last year, failed to offer a FiT within the benchmark range. This needs to be strictly regulated and mandated to retailers have to do the right thing and offer it as a minimum!

My own early experience with solar was a positive one when the feed-in tariff was 60c per kWh. I used my solar responsibly, mostly during daylight hours and was able to give quite a lot back to the grid. Since the tariff has been reduced so severely I feel cheated by an unjust, short-sighted NSW government and the utility companies they serve, instead of the public they are elected to serve. I am now back to paying, not what solar was intended to do.

As independence is supposedly what IPART is about, I believe it's members should listen to what Australians are asking for, and not be swayed by government members with obvious vested interests especially in CGS and coal. With our climate there is NO reason not to capitalise on our abundance of sunshine. We should be leaders in the industry, not the losers.

yours, sincerely, Annette Jones"