

My husband and I redrew on our mortgage to install solar panels for our home. We wanted to have clean energy and be part of the renewable energy revolution. Currently we are receiving 12 cents a kilowatt for the electricity we send back to the grid. This price is ridiculous. We have to buy it from the energy retailer for considerably more than that and then we are charged a 'network availability' amount on top of that! Rooftop solar is so undervalued it is blatant extortion.

We support a FAIR PRICE for solar. The Feed In Tariff should reflect the value of our contribution which is just as valid as that made by the big energy retailers. In fact it has a higher value if you consider the health and environmental benefits of solar energy versus coal fired energy generation.

It is obvious energy retailers cannot be trusted to pay a fair price to solar contributors, in fact many NSW retailers failed to even reach the benchmark last year! They are never going to pay a fair price if they can get away with it.

The Feed In Tariff needs to be regulated and solar owners should not be punished for contributing extra power to the grid and effectively lowering the wholesale price of electricity.

IPART would essentially be condoning the appalling behaviour of the energy retailers if the FiT is dropped even further than the woeful benchmark it is now.

We are selling our excess to the energy retailer. Currently we can't do anything else with it if we do not have batteries. Having a fair, regulated and mandated minimum price for our contribution is the only way forward for us. We are relying on IPART to make this a mandated fair price for a commodity that is benefiting the entire nation.

The NSW community is suffering because our government cannot agree that sustainable, green energy is the way of the future. While they continue to argue and procrastinate and effectively stall any movement toward this future, individual 'solar citizens' are doing something more environmentally and socially sustainable for Australia's energy needs than this ridiculous government. We should be remunerated fairly for this, not ignored. We are contributing power not peanuts.