

SUBMISSION TO IPART REVIEW
SOLAR FEED-IN TARIFFS 2017/18

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As the owner of a home with solar generating panels I strongly support a fair price for the solar feed-in tariff. I believe this fair tariff should be a mandatory minimum for retailers, not merely a benchmark range, and I believe the feed-in tariff should increase in line with the wholesale price of electricity so as to fairly reflect the true value of solar electricity generation.

Rooftop solar power is, I believe, a vital part of a clean energy plan for Australia. Australian home owners have embraced solar technology enthusiastically, thanks in part to the generous encouragement of State and Federal Government subsidies. Despite these subsidies home owners have made a substantial investment in their solar systems and now, due to decreased feed-in tariffs have to invest yet again to enable the use of their on-site generated power before grid supplied power by purchasing smart meters, new inverters etc. (We are still waiting for the installation of a smart meter from Energy Australia as there is a backlog of requests. This means we have been paid virtually nothing for our exported energy for the past 5 months of peak generating time.)

The rooftop solar industry needs to continue to expand to allow future research and development and to fulfil its true potential but will not do so if homeowners can no longer depend on a fair return for their investment. Please consider the important role that rooftop solar plays in electricity generation and ensure that those who have invested in this technology are paid fairly, both now and in the future, for any electricity that is exported to the grid.

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