

Author name: G. Brennan

Date of submission: Tuesday, 8 May 2018

Submission: I write to support continuance of a reasonable feed-in tariff for domestic solar. The principal impact of a return to large peak and shoulder differentials is to create the conditions where most of us will convert to battery storage and retain our surplus for later use, whereas I suspect the community interest less in having peak energy available on hot days when AC surge is at its greatest. Further, with the increasing availability of smart and time of day metering there is no good reason why feed-in could not be time of day linked - reflecting the real value of the power provided. I never received or sought a highly subsidised feed-in, nor do I think those arrangements are warranted. Indeed from a policy perspective it is preferable that industry inducement takes a more direct form. What the regulator should be doing is establishing conditions which protect small generators from coercive distorted practices by larger distribution entities, many of which are conflicted in either owning or having partnership relationships with other generating asset owners. There is no basis on which protection of the investment decisions of these entities deserves a greater priority than the investment decisions of others else. Indeed it could be argued that with all the limited liability protection they enjoy the risk position of these investments is already superior.