

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

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Submission for a fair return to home based solar generation systems exporting to the Grid

I ask for a fair price increase for home based exported solar generation to around 12 to 14 cents per KW. Currently my energy connection through Red Energy returns 6 cents per KW while being better than some it doesn't make a fair return or cover purchase costs nor future liabilities. Plus many other energy suppliers only return 0 cents per KW which for the investment we have made this is appalling. At these low 6 cent rates my system will pay for its self in about 20 years just when the system needs full replacement. So I fully support an initiative for a substantial return of a valuable resource to the community through the state power grid.

Also we ask for a payment from the grid for Service to Supply Charge to our commercial solar generation unit. Just like the current commercial State grid does to get a fair commercial return.

Currently on my power bill I get a Service to Property Charge of \$1.310 /day, this is a fee for connection to the generation system and it's distribution. This charge is to cover the cost of making the power and its maintenance/ replacement of generators, distribution and maintenance/ replacement of poles and wires plus infrastructure.


As you know we purchased the Grid Solar System to reduce our power bills and get a fair return on investments of thousands of dollars. Plus in 15 to 20 years most systems will have reduced output due to degradation of panels and deterioration of inverter electronics. So money has to be put away for maintenance and replacements just like the States Grid system which charges us a Service fee to Supply which part of this goes to cover replacements/ maintenance. Currently we have to supply/ install the system, change meters, maintain the supply line to the pole which is our total responsibility, and in rural areas the first pole is the responsibility of the land owner to purchase and totally maintain. Plus if a fault to the Grid is caused by our Solar Generation system or any connection to the grid we must pay for the repairs and damages to the grid or it's customers. This could lead to the need for insurance to protect our selves from large bills for faults/ repairs which would be another big unanticipated cost for us to bear.

So we are supplying power to the Grid which is a commercial enterprise looking for a fair return for investments with future repair cost and faults/damages covered. So just like them we need a Service to Supply charge on connection to our Solar Generation System of approximately \$1.310 /day or something similar. Just like the Grid does getting a fair return on investments and putting some aside for future repairs and maintenance. But unlike the Grid

and its many supply companies we are not out to make huge profits nor hold people to ransom for an essential service. Just ask for a fair and equitable return.

Now with out a doubt the Grid Supply Companies will cry foul to both of these increased returns and point the finger of blame at home based solar generation causing price rises to consumers. But since the power generators and grid were sold off by the State Government, Energy Suppliers have increased up to 70% energy cost to consumers with no increase to home based solar generation supply. Con-try to assurances given by the then Premier Mr Baird that on the sale of the electrical generators and distribution networks no increase in prices to consumers would occur. But then that was the word of a politician which accounts for nothing. And nothing is what we currently get for a benefit to the environment and consumers through solar energy generation so please give a fair return for our investments in the planet and your future.

  
**Geoff Pettett**

  
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