SUBMISSION TO IPART REVIEW

SOLAR FEED-IN TARIFFS 2017/18

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I applaud IPART's proposal to double the NSW solar feed-in tariff (FIT). Indeed I maintain that it should be compulsory for power companies to pay this higher FIT.

It is important to encourage more people to install solar.

In the heatwaves in NSW last Summer it was domestic solar that helped prevent blackouts. Without domestic solar a lot more industry than Tomago would have been put out of action.

We live on the coast & often we do not need to use our air conditioning when people & businesses in the Western Suburbs have a high demand for cooling. Yet I have observed that there is a low penetration of small scale solar in the Cronulla area. An increased FIT together with other measures, should be used to encourage solar in the cooler areas.

Many regional areas of NSW are serviced by the grid even though they are a long way from the coal fired & gas fired power stations. We know that the further electricity has to travel through wires the more is lost. By encouraging domestic solar by higher tariffs in these regional areas, the less pressure there is less pressure on electricity production.

Domestic solar is decreasing the price of electricity because its height of production is during the afternoon & early evening peak in consumption. This is when the generators often demand very high prices for their electricity. Even at double the present FIT, domestic solar is a cheap source of power. It should be encouraged by this new fair FIT.

In conclusion, domestic solar is playing an important role in the transition from dangerous fossil fuel power generation to the power source needed now, Renewables.

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