

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

**Saturday, 20 May 2017**

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As rural residents for over 45 years, we have suffered from poor supply of power, expensive power and increased costs just to be connected, over and above usage costs. Years ago we decided to invest in Solar Power to ensure stability of power and decrease our costs enormously. Now that the Govt support ceased in Dec 2016 we have had to invest in a new digital meter as the provider was 4 months behind in setting them up and they advised us that there would be no payment/compensation for the power that we generated which went into their coffers until the meter had been replaced. We do not know what we are getting for any feed in power at this stage as we have had no communications from the provider (Origin Energy), but understand that they were going to pay approx 6-7c per kWh. Considering the cost they are in turn going to charge us, the price is totally unfair and it should increase dramatically, in line with the wholesale price of electricity. It should also be regulated so that retailers have to offer it as a minimum payment - which should represent the true value of solar power. They are most people, departments and politicians are aware of the benefit of solar power to the environment, individuals and their health, and should be acknowledged by paying an appropriate amount for the purchase of our excess power from our Solar System. If they do not, they are either forcing us to accept a pittance, or allowing it to disappear without going to the grid for others and the environment to benefit from. It is money for nothing to them. We already pay the ongoing fees for maintenance of equip that we do not necessarily need so they have no justification other than greed.

**Marj Bullivant**



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