

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

Friday, 19 May 2017
11:40:36 AM

Dear Sir/Madam

I am the Manager of an organisation which established the first community-based solar farm in Australia - Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre. Income from the project generated via offset electricity costs and the NSW Feed in Tariff financially benefited the 6 community not-for-profit organisations involved, including the funding of two permanent jobs, for a period of six years. That project is no longer viable on the current feed in tariff rates and therefore ceased to operate as a 'farm' in January 2017. The organisations involved continue to derive a (significantly reduced) benefit from the offsetting of electricity costs via their arrays, however the larger community economic and employment benefits are no longer available.

I therefore support a fair price for solar;
The feed-in tariff should increase in line with the wholesale price of electricity;
The feed-in tariff should not just be a benchmark range, it should be regulated so retailers have to offer it as a minimum;
The feed-in tariff should represent the true value of solar, this means recognising the environmental and health benefits and the network benefits of rooftop solar.

Kind regards
Natalie Meyer

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