

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

**Tuesday, 9 May 2017**  
1:18:37 PM

I wish to add my voice to the call for a fairer price for the solar feed-in tariff. The many homes and other private installations constitute an effective virtual power station, one that obviates the need for additional grid capacity for situation like hot, summer days when air-conditioner use ramps up. People like me who have no air conditioning are subsidising the entire network to support those who do have air-conditioning. In fact, so many homes in this country are poorly designed with regard to thermal efficiency; as such they place an enormous load on the network, both in regard to heating and cooling. There are also those in the society who care little or nothing about air pollution and global warming, and they don't deserve to be subsidised by those with a conscience.

There is clearly room for an increase in the FiT, at least as high as the wholesale price. Failure to institute such a FiT increase is certain to push many consumers off-grid, particularly with the inexorable drop in the price of storage systems like batteries, and the death spiral becomes more likely.

There needs to be some level of compulsion placed on the suppliers. Through the gold-plating of the physical network over recent years, and the cynical passing-on of this cost to consumers in the increasing fixed cost component of electricity charges, the suppliers have shown a level of greed and disregard for consumers that underscores the need to force their hand. They cannot be trusted to act voluntarily. When there is a buck to be made, self-monitoring in any industry has been shown repeatedly to be a farce.

One must never forget that the whole driver of this re-engineering of our society to one driven by renewable energy is the onrushing crisis of global warming.

The current reality of renewables now starting to undercut fossil fuel thermal generation is a welcome bonus that will hasten and ensure the demise of dirty technology like thermal coal. The key issue remains a reduced greenhouse gas footprint, and solar FiT prosumers should be rewarded, not penalised. Other deleterious thermal coal emissions like PM2.5 and noxious gases and trace elements are also being reduced by the lessened demand for thermal coal combustion, and our society needs to also value and recompense the solar electricity generators for their part in making our society healthier.

**Peter Green**

████████████████████  
Postcode: 2776