

*SUBMISSION re SOLAR FEED- IN TARIFFS 2013- 2014*

To IPART Review Committee,

As one of many thousands of NSW householders who have installed solar generators in more recent times, I am alarmed at the poor feed- in tariff of 6c/kWh paid me, when my feed- in power is sold on at premium rates, currently for me being 24.25c/ kWh.

In a way I suppose I am lucky to get anything at all, as a large number of NSW retailers are not paying anything at all, which in my view is tantamount to stealing. If the public stole electricity from them, they would probably be gaoled!

I don't see why these suppliers cannot pay parity rates for all feed- ins. Apart from selling this power on, it does not need to be generated by base load generation plants, saving greenhouse emissions and ultimately lowering their emission liabilities under the Carbon tax.

Also, retailers charge extra over the standard tariff for “green” power content, supposedly generated by wind and solar farm installations. Yet they pay a mere pittance or nothing for OUR input solar power! Is that fair?

Victoria now pays parity for feed- ins, Tasmania is paying 19.3c., and South Australia is paying 23.1c in a joint supplier/ Government arrangement.

I am hoping IPART can at least get the ball rolling in this matter, putting pressure on the State government to act and mandate what is paid for small solar generated feed- ins.

Most of what my own system currently generates is fed into the grid. Some owners I have spoken to actually USE more power in order to offset the poor or non- existent feed- in tariffs. That is a rather ridiculous situation to be put in, and I refuse to take part in that. If the feed- in tariff were parity or near parity, more power could be fed into the grid rather than wasted. This could result in even more savings for power generators, with respect to their Carbon tax liabilities.

Regards, Ray Murphy.