



**Gladys Berejiklian MP**  
Premier of New South Wales

Ref: A436096

**27 NOV 2020**

Dr Paul Paterson  
Chair  
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal  
PO Box K35  
HAYMARKET POST SHOP NSW 1240

Dear Dr Paterson,

I write in relation to the voluntary benchmark range for solar feed-in tariffs that the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal has recommended each year since 2011/2012.

The Minister for Energy and Environment, The Hon Matt Kean MP, has requested your assistance to conduct annual reviews and recommend a solar feed-in tariff benchmark range for the next three years from 2021/22 to 2023/24.

As required by Section 9 of the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992*, I approve the Tribunal providing this assistance and enclose the Terms of Reference for the reviews.

Yours faithfully,

**Gladys Berejiklian MP**  
**Premier**

CC: The Hon Matt Kean MP, Minister for Energy and Environment

Encl.



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

**The investigation and determination by IPART of an annual benchmark range for feed-in tariffs for financial years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24**

**Reference to IPART under section 9 of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992**

With the approval of the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier of NSW and Minister administering the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992 (IPART Act), pursuant to section 9(2) of the IPART Act, the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) will enter into arrangements with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the Department) to investigate and determine:

- the voluntary benchmark range for solar feed-in tariffs paid by retailers for electricity produced by complying generators and supplied to the distribution network
- time dependent benchmark ranges paid by retailers for electricity produced by complying generators and supplied to the distribution network during different times of the day.

### Conduct of investigation

In conducting this investigation, IPART is to consider the following key parameters:

- There should be no resulting increase in retail electricity prices.
- The voluntary benchmark range should operate in such a way as to support a competitive retail electricity market in NSW.

In conducting this investigation, IPART may incorporate:

- half-hourly solar export data reflecting customers in all three network areas
- forecast electricity wholesale prices for the financial year of the determination.

### Reporting

IPART is to:

- report on the standard and time-of-use feed-in tariffs offered by each retailer at the time of writing its report
- note whether that tariff was within the benchmark for the preceding financial year
- provide a one to two-page factsheet that assists consumers to understand feed-in tariffs.

### Consultation

In preparing its report on the voluntary benchmark range, IPART may consult on any matter that it regards as material.

### Timing

IPART is to provide its determination by 30 April each year for the next three years starting with the benchmark range for financial year 2021-22 in April 2021. The Department may amend the Terms of Reference to align with the government policies and to remain relevant in the energy market.

Signed:



**Matt Kean MP**

Minister for Energy and Environment

Date:

02.10.20