

Minimum feed-in tariff 2023-24

Submission received through Engage Victoria

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Submission written by: Indar Ghikpal

From December 2022, we began accepting submissions on our Minimum feed-in tariff review 2023-24 via Engage Victoria (www.engage.vic.gov.au). On this website, people were given the opportunity to send us a response to a set of questions we provided.

What parts of our proposed methodology for setting the minimum single and time-varying feed-in tariff rates do you consider are appropriate?

None. Your methodology is flawed and protects the profits of retailers rather than protecting the interests of Victorians.

What parts of our proposed methodology should we change?

Your entire methodology needs to change. If the daytime wholesale prices are so low that the FiT has dropped to 4.8 cents, why are the retailers charging so much to provide electricity during daytime? How about you start regulating that as well?

You claim that if the FiT was higher, non-solar customers would be subsidizing the solar customers via higher rates. Yet you are completely fine with solar customers subsidizing the higher profits of retailers because the retailers get to pocket the difference between the FiT and the rate at which they sell electricity to the non-solar customers.

In fact, I would gladly support subsidizing non-solar customers. I would gladly accept a zero FiT if it meant that non-solar customers could buy electricity from the retailer at the rate of 4.8 c per kwh. These are the kind of innovative steps that you as a regulator should be taking to promote renewables. You need to start considering the entire solar producing customer base as one giant electricity producer and retailer and look at how best they can bring the retail rates down for all. Yet disappointingly, all you seem to be doing over the past years is run a profit protectionist racket for the retailers.

Overall you need to do a better job of promoting renewables and protecting the interests of Victorians and not the energy retailers.

For our overall methodology, or parts of it, what alternative methodologies should we consider?

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You need to stop looking at wholesale prices and start looking at the retail prices because the relationship in question here is the retail relationship between the solar customer and the retailer. If retail prices have gone up overall then the FiT needs to go up.

Overall you need to do a better job of promoting renewables and protecting the interests of Victorians and not the energy retailers.