Geoff Hatten

Victorian Government Solar power enquiry.

11/2/16

I would request that this submission be included in this important enquiry

I have 4.5 Kw/hr on my roof generating power for household consumption. During the summer months my electricity consumption is less than the solar power generated. This excess power provides origin energy with electricity that can be sold to another customer at around six times what they pay for it.

Regarding solar feed-in tariff, Origin Energy says don’t blame us as they are following minimum pricing as set by the electricity pricing mechanism.

The price I pay for electricity is going up (3 cents per kw/hr the last time) while the price I get for my solar generated electricity is going down (two cents Kw/hr last time). That is a contradiction for which I have not seen a satisfactory explanation.

I expect solar feed-in tariffs have to be small so that the electricity industry and government can recoup the losses caused by the decision to pay 66c Kw/hr when the scheme was introduced.

I believe these feed-in rates are near the end of their life.

So will the government support an increase to the feed-in tariff to more realistic levels of around twice the wholesale price, which I believe to be about 5c per Kw/hr.

The feed-in tariff needs to reflect reduced transmission costs as the power is already close to where it is to be used.

The feed-in tariff also should reflect the pollution free nature of solar power as it reduces the need to burn coal which is contributing to greenhouse gas build up.