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I want a fair go for solar

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To the Essential Services Commission - Inquiry into the true value of Distributed Generation to Victorian Consumers

The current price for fed-in solar power at 5c/kWh makes a mockery of the true value of that power.

On an economic basis alone, 5c does not come close to both the direct and indirect 'avoided costs' of the energy. That level of cost looks to award only the current wholesale price adjusted for losses. Yet, the advent of wide-spread solar has dramatically impacted pool prices and dampened market power of generators. It has also reduced system-wide peak demand growth.

The fossil lobby would have you believe that these other economic benefits are inconsequential. I am afraid there is a fair amount of regulatory capture when there is no attempt at including these other values, and the fact that we can't even get data from these regulated entity's to confirm the impacts on demand by feeder speaks volumes.

Then there is the environmental benefits, and risk reduction from moving towards regulatory framework that actually encourage distributed renewable generation. We have the most carbon-intensive grid in the country, if not the world. It's irresponsible if we aren't moving in a direction which encourages a shake-up of that. What will happen to those people that need Essential services in 2 years, 5 years, a decade.

Please open your eyes ESC. The last round of reviews you were entirely captured by an industry lobby merely trying to lock out any form of competition. You are charged with providing appropriate incentives for efficiency, and protecting the long term interests of Victorian efficiency. Please do your job!