

James Chan

Inquiry into the True Value of Distributed Generation to Victorian Consumers

9/2/16

Dear Inquiry members,

Thank you for the opportunity to give a submission to the Victorian Government inquiry into the true value of Distributed Generation.

The Government has shown commitment to renewable energy, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels. As one of the 245000 Victorian households or businesses to have solar, I believe that I am contributing to the reduction in fossil fuel electricity generation.

The current feed-in tariff of 5c/kWh does not reflect the benefit that rooftop solar provides in reducing this reliance on fossil fuels. When the average household can be paying more than 30c/kWh for electricity, this is clearly not a fair go for Victorians.

Rooftop solar effectively reduces the strain on the grid, with any surplus electricity being fed back to the grid, and to neighbours that need electricity, and thus delay the need to upgrade the grid.

Another benefit of increased roof top solar is the reduction in pollution, and health problems related to mining, and burning of coal/gas.

The key, is a fair price. As a household we are generating electricity like the coal producers in Gippsland. We should be fairly remunerated for that. We have invested finances in order to produce electricity, and have benefited from subsidies from Government, just like the electricity generators. Hence we are asking for fairness, nothing more, nothing less. I sincerely hope this inquiry will provide this advice to the government.