Barry Sheffield

Submission on solar feed-in tariff

9/2/16

My power retailer credits me 6.5 cents per kWh for power generated by my solar panels, that is fed into the grid, while charging me 32.7 cents kWh for power that I use from the grid. This not only an appalling situation it is totally inequitable. How can it be argued that power flowing in one direction in the grid, can be valued at 5 times the rate of power flowing in the other direction? This is so inequitable that it verges on immoral. The State government should immediately legislate that clean renewable solar power, fed into the grid, should be remunerated at a rate at least equal to that generated by filthy brown coal.
Barry Sheffield

**Fw: Submission on solar feed-in tariff - UPDATE**

11/2/16

Yesterday I received a letter from my power retailer, Red Energy, advising that my solar feed-in tariff will be reduced to 5.5 cents kWh, but that I should be pleased that it is still above the minimum regulated rate. This unethical & inequitable situation is getting worse, so the Victorian government must act immediately to rectify this appalling situation.

I use Red Energy because they use the power from Hepburn Wind, Australia’s only community wind farm. As a share holder in Hepburn Wind, Red Energy offer me a special rate. When my solar panels were installed, I was shocked at the appalling rate that Red Energy would pay me for my solar generated power. I was also shocked that, because of my solar panels, I would now have to pay a higher rate for the power that I took from the grid.

When I questioned the reason for this situation, considering the agreement that Red Energy has with Hepburn Wind, I was told that the solar rates are set by the power wholesaler, & as a retailer, they could not vary those rates.