

Carolyn Gilpin

Rooftop solar power submission

10/2/16

For the Rooftop Solar Inquiry:

My husband and I have made a commitment to solar power and to helping the environment by investing in \$15,000 worth of solar panels for our house some four years ago.

This has added considerably to our mortgage, and will not be paid off for another ten years, but we are also aware that it improves the value of our home. This reflects what the market is looking for - people are keen to change to solar power if they can afford to.

This is for many reasons - savings on costs and the environmental benefits would be the two highest reasons for individual rooftop solar.

We believe that rooftop solar owners deserve a feed-in tariff equal to the value of the energy they're providing to the big power companies - we know that the companies are then selling it on at a far higher rate to others without solar power.

Most importantly, as articulated by Solar Citizens, "rooftop solar power creates no carbon pollution, no particulate pollution and does not create other environmental and other health problems such as those associated with the mining, transportation or burning of fossil fuels".

This reflects the Victorian Government's election promise to support and promote investment in renewable energies, to help protect our environment

Without a higher feed-in tariff for rooftop solar, homeowners will give up on investing in solar power, and we will lose the impetus to change.

It's also time for the big energy companies to see the light and start moving their own investment and infrastructure to renewable energies, before it's too late.

Please make it clear to them, and to homeowners, that you support renewable energy and our environment by raising the tariff!

We're not expecting high amounts here, just enough to encourage more people to invest in rooftop solar.

Thank you.