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Personal Submission – Victorian Government Inquiry

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Energy Submission – Victorian Inquiry

Working for a Plantation Company I understand the need for an environmentally and sustainable Industry. I am struggling to see why as a state we are still so dependent on dirty polluting fossil fuels.

The future really is in having clean sustainable energy source such as solar power. Already there are houses all over the state that are showing their belief in the technology and their desire for a better cleaner world.

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.

I am one of the luckier ones that installed a 5kw on my house at the higher rate. Since then then our business has been installing solar on all our offices around the state.

We need to be able to promote this and expand our energy from solar or wind. It is difficult to promote or encourage new customers when at the moment they receive five cents a kilowatt for anything put back on the grid only to have the supplier sell it to their neighbour at a much higher rate.

Also it should be considered to make the solar portable, if I wish to relocate and take my existing solar panels with me to a new house I should be able to do that without fear of losing my rebate amount.

If I was to move and take my panels I will be reverted back to the five kilowatt rate. Is this fair?

The five cents a kilowatt seems so low when The costs that networks (the companies that own the poles and wires) charge for solar power should be minimised as rooftop solar puts less strain on the grid due to its decentralised structure. Indeed, solar power helps reduce the costs of the grid by averting the need to build more expensive poles and wires and minimising loss of electricity.

Already we are hearing the costs of the coal mines to return them to their natural state is going to be in the hundreds of millions and yet these companies have failed to budget for this and it will be the taxpayers of this state who will eventually wear the cost of this along

with the cost both physically and financially for the recent coal mine fires.

In the 1800's it may have been except able to kill whales for oil or burn fossil fuels. As a nation we have past the need to do this. We are looking for clean sustainability energy.