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**Submission: A Fair price for Solar Energy**

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**The Victorian Government Enquiry into Solar Power - Energy Submissions**

**To Whom it May Concern:**

At the last election, the Victorian Labor Government promised to promote and protect solar in this State. This commitment included an investigation into the true value of exported rooftop solar and I would like to make a submission to this inquiry now.

It is clear that the current 5c/kWh is nowhere near the true value of solar power. Solar owners like me have made a considerable investment in our systems and deserve a fair price for the energy we feed back into the grid. Rooftop solar power is more valuable and delivers more benefits than dirty, polluting fossil fuels and the price paid should reflect this.

Rooftop solar owners like me just want a fair go. It's not fair that retailers are able to buy cheap, exported solar from one house and sell it to a neighbour at an inflated price. The costs that networks (the companies that own the poles and wires) charge for solar power should actually 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. Battery stored solar power that is exported to the grid should also attract the same price as solar power as well.

Rooftop solar power creates no carbon pollution, no particulate pollution and does not create other environmental and health hazards such as those associated with the mining, transportation or burning of fossil fuels.

Solar owners have done the sensible thing and started generating clean, cheap energy from the sun - it's only right to get a fair price for solar power.