

**Submission  
No 55**

**INQUIRY INTO ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, DEMAND AND  
PRICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Mr Geoff Pettett

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In recent emails from Solar Citizens we are encouraged to make a submission for a fair go or price increase for exported solar generation. I fully support this initiative for a substantial return of a valuable resource to the community through the state power grid. But I think we should also ask for payment of Service to Supply Charge.

Currently on my power bill I get a Service to Property Charge of \$1.310 /day, this is a fee for connection to the generation system and it's distribution. This charge is to cover the cost of making the power and maintenance/ replacement of generators, distribution and maintenance/ replacement of poles and wires plus infrastructure.

As you know we purchased the Grid Solar System to reduce our power bills and get a fair return on investments of thousands of dollars. Plus in 15 to 20 years most systems will have reduced output due to degradation of panels and deterioration of inverter electronics. So money has to be put away for maintenance and replacements just like the States Grid system which charges us a Service fee to supply to cover replacements/ maintenance. Currently we have to supply/ install the system, change meters, maintain the supply line to the pole which is our total responsibility, and in rural areas the first pole is the responsibility of the land owner to purchase and maintain. Plus if a fault to the Grid is caused by our Solar Generation system or any connection to the grid we must pay for the repairs and damages to the grid or it's customers. This could lead to the need for insurance to protect our selves from large bills for faults which would be another big cost for us to bear.

So we are supplying power to the Grid and as a commercial enterprise looking for a fair return for investments with future repair cost and faults/damages covered. We need a Service to Supply charge to connection to our Solar Generation System of approximately \$1.310 /day or something similar. So just like the Grid does now getting a fair return on investments and future repairs and maintenance give us a chance for a fair return on our investment. Or else tell us to take or business elsewhere and join the growing number of stand alone systems that will contribute nothing to the Grid or Carbon offsets sold to industries.