

**Submission
No 110**

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

Name: Mr Ian Anderson

Date received: 16 October 2017

Thanks for taking the time for reading my submission.

I live in the southern tablelands of NSW on a rural property. I am a retiree/farmer who moved from Sydney 2 years ago.

In building our new home we took environmental considerations into account and installed a 5.2Kw solar system on the roof of our property.

We then spent \$28,000- connecting to the grid as we were advised as senior citizens it would be wise to have a reliable power supply.

We have invested significantly in solar power to ensure we have environmentally clean energy. Annually we produce on average more than double the amount of power we use. If we look at specific quarters our poorest period is winter and even then we produce just under twice what we consume. However, the poor rebate provided by our supplier, Origin Energy, means we still have to pay our power provider. Origin recently lifted our rebate from \$0.06 to \$0.09 but then increase our prime usage rate by \$0.01.5, meaning the overall benefit was a \$0.01.5 improvement.

Origin Energy also charge me approximately \$130- every quarter as a service connection fee. I feel this is unreasonable as I paid \$28000- to connect and there should be some warranty with this installation that does not require me to be continually pay out to our power provider. This past quarter I paid Origin an additional \$200- plus even though I produced far more energy than I consumed.

The pressure is increasing to go totally off-grid as the costs of being connected along with the poor (not aligned to true market value) rebate are making it too costly.

I know, as with other roof top solar users, what my consumption and usage is. It's not too hard to work out what the break even point is for adding a battery system to our solution to go off grid.

Our preference is to have a true market aligned rebate that reflects the value our solar power that is then sold on to other consumers.

If this poor rebate situation is not addressed, we along with other solar powers producers, will have not option but to go off grid.

If thousands of roof top solar producers leave the grid the cost of power will only increase for those who remain connected to the grid.

The best option is a fair and indexed solar rebate price for solar power providers.

Thanks for taking this matter seriously and for causing a valued outcome for solar producers.

Ian Anderson