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

Name: Mr Rudolf Tobys
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I would like to indicate that the government should legislate that owners of home who have solar systems installed should get a much fairer price for the excess electricity that they export to the grid.

While my retailer does offer a reasonable price I am paying more than double what I receive for the electricity I export to the grid. It costs the power sellers nothing to produce this electricity as I have installed the infrastructure.

NSW needs a legislated minimum feed in tariff so that the householder can get a fair reimbursement for the capital costs of the system they install. As indicated above the retailers have not invested in any infrastructure whatsoever so the cost they sell it to me for minus what they give me and a small administrative cost per KWH is profit. And in NSW this is excessive profit.

The current feed-in tariff does not compensate the householder for the cost of installing the system and only get paid for what they produce. The government and big business saves a great deal as they don’t have to outlay the capital to build the large scale infrastructure. With more community systems the government could assist neighbours to provide electricity to each other at a fair cost. The more solar systems that are on roofs has a positive impact on the environment as the huge multinationals are not destroying the countryside with big holes in the ground depleting resources with with their diesel guzzling machines and the pollution that their operations puts into the atmosphere. I’ve seen coal falling off conveyor belts when traveling around the Hunter Valley. Coal dust falling off the drains as they hurtle on the railway tracks vibrating the ground around towns and the raucous noise they make.

The companies also rip off the consumers with excessive connection fees. Why should my brother in Newcastle pay half as much as I do for having the cable connected to my house. This is just a moneymaking rip off and once again country people are discriminated against. I don’t buy the argument about distance as the poles and wires have been up for years.

Any personal examples about your solar systems and experiences with the feed-in tariff;

Your support for rooftop solar and renewables, not old polluting sources of power.