

**Submission
No 148**

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

Name: Mr Phillip Birch
Date received: 16 October 2017

Dear Sirs/Ms

I have had solar on my roof for over five years and have just increased the number of panels. My reasons for doing so are not only for environmental reasons but also because it is economically beneficial as I get a better return from my investment than I would from any bank...something around ten percent... I could even borrow the money and make a major saving by putting additional panels on my roof.

I believe that a reasonable minimum feed in tariff should apply across the board and that it should be a legislated amount. However I do not believe it should be a set figure, rather a set percentage of the normal power tariff. My reasoning is as follows. My current supplier will increase the feed in tariff (FIT) for me in December but they are also increasing the cost of electricity per kilo watt hour (Kwh) by the same amount. This effectively means I will be paid the same FIT as before which effectively means they retain the same return from me (and other solar users) as they did before covering the FIT costs. If the FIT was set at a percentage of the basic power tariff for the service as this would effectively mean that those producing power from their roofs retain the value of the FIT rather than have it subsumed into the increase basic power tariffs.

Since I have installed my additional 4 Kilo watt system in July 2017 I have produced 2.13 mega watt hours which is the equivalent of planting 39 trees. With my system I can see how much I produce and consume.

I am 73 years old and I am greatly concerned for my children and grandchildren and their children. I believe we have to think for the future and not the limited lives we lead as individuals and the best way we can do this is to leave the world better than we found it. At this time I believe that we are failing in that effort.

Phill Birch