

**Submission
No 156**

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

Name: Mr Peter Green

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I wish to make a short submission into the Electricity Pricing inquiry, in particular the level of FiT (feed-in tariff) being paid to home electricity generators. To me it is clear that for many years the energy retailers have been gouging consumers. Enough is enough. People like me are net providers of electricity to the grid, providing firming of power at peak times and obviating the need for more utility-scale power generators. I don't use air conditioning, so my power on hot summer days is directed straight to my neighbours who haven't got a clue about matters like energy conservation and renewables. In this process the retailer makes a massive markup profit, risk free. And people like me are punished instead of being rewarded.

This free ride needs to stop. You, as part of our political representative group, need to make it known that retailers haven't been doing the right thing when it comes to solar owners; the feed-in tariff needs to be fair and it needs to be compulsory. Self-regulation never works for the greater good.

Your inquiry should produce, at a minimum, some basic recommendations.

• You need to support a legislated fair price for solar. People like me who have a tiny environmental footprint, and who have demonstrated enlightened environmental awareness, should not be penalised for supporting the uncaring.

• I personally accept that parity of pricing might be asking too much, but the gap between FiT and purchased power is obscenely large.

• A FiT price closer to parity would more reflect the true value of solar, including the environmental and health benefits and the network benefits of rooftop solar.

• I have had solar hot water for 20 years, and solar PV for about 9 years, clearly indicating my support for a new world of non-polluting renewable energy. Coal's day is done, and it is an industry on life support. The only people supporting are those with a short term financial interest and an immoral disregard for a liveable future.

• You might also focus on increasing propensity to increase the proportion of the bill that is fixed. This shows a contempt for those who try to conserve electricity or who demonstrate an understanding that renewable energy is the only future that we can have.