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

Name: Mr Peter Fraser

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I am one of the initial instigators of the Goulburn Community Solar Farm, which will be the largest community owned solar farm in NSW. I also own a 5 kw solar system on my property. Our group, CE4G, are currently involved in a partnership with one of the best retailers in NSW to bring a better deal to people in our region who are suffering because of the high price of electricity, substantially because of the State government owned Essential Energy, whose staff levels have been severely curtailed recently, putting our solar farm well behind schedule. I am very concerned at the poor feed in tariff that we and others are being offered in this region and there is plenty of discussion about going completely off the grid because of the poor tariffs and high cost of power. If the government doesn't want to face a rebellion and a downward cycle of demand due to people going off grid, there will have to be a better price paid for feed in tariffs and a concerted effort to do something about the spiralling costs of power.