

**Submission
No 181**

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

Name: Ms Cheryl Whitlen

Date received: 16 October 2017

I believe the people of NSW, and other states and territories, are being taken advantage of by the energy retailers. Our energy supply and retail system should never have been privatised in my opinion. Rarely does privatisation lead to increased competition and lower prices for consumers. Big business has too much influence when it comes to State and Federal government decisions. I also believe the Federal Government is letting our country down by not investing in solar power and continuing the big push for coal. They, and the NSW State government, are not hearing the people, and for this reason I am pleased that this inquiry is being held.

Where are our innovative leaders? Many of the people of NSW do not feel that our governments are taking climate change seriously enough and working towards a solution.

A fairer feed in tariff is needed to encourage more investment into solar power. I would like to increase the size of my solar system, however when the feed in tariff is so low it is not a good proposition for the average person. This is a huge disincentive for private investment into more solar, an industry that should be encouraged.

A fairer feed-in tariff is needed, and this would need to be legislated.

Come on NSW Government, make a difference, show some real leadership.