
From: Fraser Petrie <>
Sent: Tuesday, 15 March 2016 2:52 PM
To: Economic Regulator (Treasury); matthew.groom@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Fw: The tasmanian Electricity Feed In Tariff Rate

Dear Sir,

As an resident who invested in good faith into a solar array on my roof I felt well and truly "done over" by the government decision to drastically cut the FiT (Feed in Tariff). I am a "legacy" client and expect the current feed in rate of 28 cents to run until end of 2018 when I believe it will fall to around the current rate of 5.5 cents.

I was disappointed as I felt it was a breach of contract given that I made the decision to invest in additional capacity based on the feed in tariff rate of 27 cents for an extended period ie the life of the panels 25 years, only to have the politicians breach the agreement and cut it short.

I cannot understand why the current solar FiT rates are so low when we can see the retail rate per kilowatt of around 25 cents, sure the wholesale rate may be less but lets say its around 18 cents, why should we residential suppliers be paid any less.

With the current energy crisis I would have thought that the government would encourage all forms of renewable energy and therefore provide good incentives for Tasmanian's to invest in these sources.... no not this government which runs along, head in the sand having "full confidence" and yet orders in 200 diesel generators and is now talking of another Bass Link Cable... short sighted dirty power generation. They should enable renewable's to be a substantial part of the energy mix, not just hydro, but wind and solar.

I have a plan, in that when the legacy FiT ends in 2018 and if the Fit does not better reflect the wholesale price I shall be investing in a battery storage unit and go "off grid", and I don't think I will be the only household to do so. Unless the power companies and government start reacting to customer concerns they may see the "death spiral" in electricity cost and number of subscribers accelerate in 2019. Of course if a fair and reasonable rate was decided upon it may make more sense to remain on grid and feed excess energy into the grid for other Tasmanian's to enjoy.

Thank you for considering my views on this important matter.

Fraser Petrie