

Minimum feed-in tariff 2023-24

Submission received through Engage Victoria

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From December 2022, we began accepting submissions on our Minimum feed-in tariff review 2023-24 via Engage Victoria (www.engage.vic.gov.au). On this website, people were given the opportunity to send us a response to a set of questions we provided.

What parts of our proposed methodology for setting the minimum single and time-varying feed-in tariff rates do you consider are appropriate?

offering discounts for households to purchase solar panels with a feed in tariff starting originally at .65c premium then discontinued that and offer around .25-35c and since have reduced to .05c and now 0.43c recommended for 2023! it has cost households thousands of dollars to install solar even with subsidies and now power costs have soared and the householder after paying out thousands of dollars for a system is now going to get even lower feed in tariffs. The householder is supplying thousands of kWhrs to the grid 0.043 to 0.05 cents per kWhr and is now charged around 0.30 plus cents per kWh. We are now suggested to spend thousands more on a battery to offset the cost of power after already spending thousands on panels.. Our inverter failed after 10 years and needs replacing at a further \$2000. Next it will be the panels that start failing so where does the cost of solar end? how will we ever recover the total outlay at such low solar tariff returns. After 10 years of having solar we still have not recouped the total cost of the whole system and expect it to take another 10 years after calculating the returns on the tariff offered and the continuing outlay for replacement of failing components. It is unfair that people were able to get a premium feed in of around .65c kWhr but that was soon discontinued. The households on that tariff are the only winners. The tariff needs to be a minimum of 20c kWhr to be at least fair. It is the households with solar who are generating power to the energy companies at a very low 0.05c kWhr then are charged 0.30 to 0.40c kWhr. Very unfair system. The cost of a solar system would pay for a lot of electricity for each household.

What parts of our proposed methodology should we change?

ensure energy providers give households a fair minimum feed in tariff return of no less than 0.20c kWhr for the solar generated to them by every household and business, after all they are charging 0.30c and up per kWhr. Otherwise installing a solar system is not cost effective with the ongoing failures of components and such low tariff returns.

For our overall methodology, or parts of it, what alternative methodologies should we consider?

The only solution is to monitor the set feed in tariffs at a fair return of no less than .20c kwhr.