

David Tomkins

Solar owners deserve a fair price for the energy they feed into the grid

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To whom it may concern

I am resident of Victoria who owns two grid connected solar power systems. I wish to make the following submission to the Victorian Government Energy Inquiry:

Rooftop solar power is more valuable and delivers more benefits than dirty, polluting fossil fuels and the price paid should reflect this.

Rooftop solar owners just want a fair go. It's not fair that retailers are able to buy cheap, exported solar from one house and sell it to a neighbour at an inflated price.

The costs that networks (the companies that own the poles and wires) charge for solar power should be minimised as rooftop solar puts less strain on the grid due to its decentralised structure. Indeed, solar power helps reduce the costs of the grid by averting the need to build more expensive poles and wires and minimising loss of electricity.

Battery stored solar power that is exported to the grid should attract the same price as solar power.

Rooftop solar power creates no carbon pollution, no particulate pollution and does not create other environmental and other health problems such as those associated with the mining, transportation or burning of fossil fuels.

It is unfair that I receive as little as 5c/kWh for the electricity that I export to the grid while I pay 35c or more per kWh for green power that I purchase from the grid. I urge you to review the feed-in tariff and set a more reasonable minimum payment.