



March 27, 2021

Mr B. Barr,
CEO,
Australian Energy Market Commission,
Level 15,
60 Castlereagh Street,
Sydney, 2000.

Dear Mr Barr,

We've read a great deal lately concerning the report you are preparing for changes to the price per Kwt for solar panel energy back to the grid and why.

Needless to say, I am one of the disgruntled householders who do not find your suggestions palatable.

I've had panels on my roof since June 2009 and I remember the Government offering subsidies if not free installation of the panels as it was deemed that it was far better to have clean and green energy rather than be reliant on coal powered power stations. I also remember the time when I received 66c for each Kwt back to the grid. Admittedly the panels were of far lesser Kwt than today but there was a distinctive push to move away from traditional energy and like thousands of Australians, I took up the offer. I have since invested in panels with a higher capacity at my expense.

I not only invested in panels for a cleaner and greener energy but I was tired of increasing costs from the electricity companies who have been ripping the public off for years. Electricity is a mainstay in any household and should be affordable for all. We've read on numerous occasions that with lesser well-off people having to choose between food and heat because after rents are paid, there's not much in the cash tin left, well, I don't want to sit huddled in blankets or go to bed because I can't afford heating.

I for one do not like \$450 - \$550 accounts during the winter months as I like to be warm and cosy. I therefore invested in panels to alleviate these bills by having a credit when winter came around so that I could enjoy warmth. Now you are proposing to take that credit away from me and that doesn't sit well in my view.

If the grid can't take the energy supplied back to it and we have a congestion there - in your words a 'traffic jam', then I suggest you should find a way for the energy to be stored. After all, that's not a problem for the public and charging us isn't going to fix the problem. Eventually, something must be done to accommodate the additional power back to the grid as more and more homes are being built, many with solar panels. How

ridiculous of you and your Commission to think that by charging the public, this is going to fix the problem. I think that's typical of narrow-mindedness thinking.

The Government and/or your Commission must have seen that this 'bottle neck' at the grid would happen eventually as thousands of households and businesses took up and are still taking up the Government's suggestion for clean and green electricity, and at the same time help alleviate huge electricity bills. I see this proposal of yours not being fair at all but about keeping the power in the hands of the few, namely, you are proposing to make the public pay for the huge amount of electricity generated while coal generators get off scot free.

No wonder there's a public backlash to your proposal. I think the public are sick and tired of the 'meanness' of Governments and 'big businesses' and this is no exception. The public, me amongst them, are sick and tired of Governments and 'big business' ripping us off at every turn. I could talk about the insurance industry, health, food and a few other businesses where the public is being slugged each year and there's no end to the huge costs we are being asked to pay.

So, perhaps the Commission can rethink what they are proposing and stop being in bed with 'big business' and particularly stop asking the man-in-the-street to pay what essentially is not their problem.

I notice that you are advising that any changes won't come into effect for years - well, they shouldn't come into effect at all but you should look at getting rid of the 'traffic jam' on the grid first and foremost, perhaps look into why the electricity companies charge so much and that might be a fairer way to deal with the problem rather than charge the public. It's time the Commission woke up to the problem the Government has essentially created.

Yours sincerely,

Christina La Ponder

Christina La Ponder (Mrs).

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ridiculous of you and your Commission to think that by changing the public, this is going to fix the problem. I think that's typical of narrow-mindedness thinking.

The government and/or your Commission must have seen that this bottle neck at the grid would happen eventually as thousands of households and businesses took up and are still taking up the government's suggestion for clean and green electricity, and at the same time help alleviate huge electricity bills. I see this proposal of yours not being far at all about keeping the power in the hands of the few, namely, you are proposing to make the public pay for the huge amount of electricity generated while coal generators get off scot free.

No wonder there's a public backlash to your proposal. I think the public are sick and tired of the 'meanness' of governments and big business, and this is no exception. The public are amongst them, are sick and tired of governments and big business ripping us off at every turn. I could talk about the insurance industry, health, food and a few other businesses where the public is being squeezed each year and there's no end to the huge costs we are being asked to pay.

So, perhaps the Commission can rethink what they are proposing and stop being in bed with big business and particularly stop asking the man-in-the-street to pay what essentially is not their problem.

I notice that you are advising that any changes won't come into effect for years - well they shouldn't come into effect at all but you should look at getting rid of the fossil fuel on the grid first and foremost, perhaps look into what the electricity companies charge so much and that might be a better way to deal with it. A better way to deal with it is to let the government take up the public. It's time the government took up the public and government and essentially created.

Yours sincerely,

Christina La Barber (Mrs)