

To the Senate inquiry: Green Loans Scheme

Dear Sir / Madam

I would like to express my concern in relation to the management of the Green Loan and here are some of my points:

I was unemployed for a number of month and completed a 4 day course (at my own expense) to become a certified home sustainability assessor and thought I could make a reasonable income. As you are aware I had to take out insurance and spend a reasonable amount of money to become an assessor and get a contract with DEWHA. Unfortunately there have been elements within the workforce which misused the scheme and made it very difficult for the rest of the single assessors to get assessments. With the scheme running at the present five assessments per week, I find it difficult to make a reasonable income. There is also no incentive for a household to get an assessment done due to the slow respond of the DEWHA with providing assessment reports and green reward cards to households which have had assessments done. I find the work very satisfying as I have experience in renewable energy and like to contribute in a positive way to the environment.

As I now get only five assessments my income has been reduces a lot as most of the cost is in promoting the scheme. I am also building a house and the cut in the assessment numbers has a negative impact but I do like going out there and doing assessments and if I could get ten per week it would make the work more profitable.

To summaries:

As the responsibility is now with the minister of climate change, energy efficiency and water I think a positive advertising campaign by the government would help getting the householders interested and more assessments done. Assessors should get a minimum of ten assessments per week to make a reasonable income.

The amount of assessors could be reduced to a sustainable level and assessors who may want to leave the scheme could be compensated for expenses.

There should be further training made available to prepare existing assessors for the possible mandatory home energy rating which may become law soon.

In my experience there are a lot of householders keen to get information and do something for the environment. I would like see them get something in return and higher energy cost is not what it should be.

Regards,

Christian Krombholz