Submission to:

The Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and The Arts Committee

Re: Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Australia urgently needs a clearly defined system to encourage production of renewable energy. While a holistic approach with a diverse range of measures is urgently required and Feed-in Tariffs are only one of many measures that need to be implemented, a Feed-in tariff system is a crucial element and a step in the right direction.

Any Feed In tariff system needs to offer a real incentive to all Australian home owners to install renewable energy systems. A system that is too complex, a system that shuts some people out, a system that tinkers at the edges of providing an incentive by putting in place caps and hurdles will be tokenistic at best. Everyone who installs a renewable energy system should be eligible for rewarding tariffs on gross production of energy.

Australians want to do something about the climate change emergency. Feed-in Tariffs set at a level to provide a real incentive can provide an important boost and platform for an Australia powered by renewable energy.

Mrs Louise Broadbent

Ms Susan Plowright

19 August 2008