

13 August 2008

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts
Department of the Senate
Email: eca.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Madam/Sir,

**Inquiry into the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment
(Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008**

I support the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008.

I note that only generators installed after the commencement of the scheme qualify for the FiT. The scheme therefore needs to be introduced quickly, as holding it up heightens the uncertainty associated with calculating paybacks and delays people from fitting generators. At a time of climate emergency, the government needs to act quickly to encourage renewables in every practical way, rather than creating uncertainty and delay.

I also note the burdensome reporting requirements to be placed on participants. This seems unnecessarily bureaucratic. Instead, all payments and record keeping should be managed through existing metering and billing systems.

It is exceptionally disappointing that a government that was elected on a wave of optimism about their potential for climate action has dithered so much and appears unable to introduce relatively simple mechanisms that are in place in other jurisdictions.

Don't dither, don't obfuscate, don't play politics – this is vital; do it now.

Yours sincerely,
Michael N Nugent