

**Submission to the Senate Committee on the Renewable Energy (Electricity)  
Amendment (Feed- In- Tariff) Bill 2008.**

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To whom it may concern:

Please accept my submission to the Senate Committee on the Renewable Energy (Electricity)  
Amendment (FIT) Bill 2008

As a designer, supplier and installer of renewable energy in Australia I have been a long term advocate of renewable and alternative energy technologies.

My recommendations in support of this Inquiry are as follows:

- The introduction of a nationally consistent **Gross** (not Net) FIT.
- The FIT rate should be set at a minimum of three times the national average energy tariff for Solar PV meeting site specific requirements.
- A minimum guaranteed period of 20years.
- The FIT should not be limited to size of installation nor the date it was installed.
- The FIT program needs to be implemented immediately to accommodate for the rapidly reducing rebate schemes.
- Any suitable renewable or “pollution” reducing energy technology that can “Feed” into the grid should be considered and assessed. Depending on their individual capabilities to produce pollution free energy they will be allocated variable rates of “Feed in Tariffs”.

The basis for my recommendations are as follows:

- The introduction of the above mentioned FIT scheme will enable the development renewable energy industries that will create long term environmental sustainability and economic stability.
- It will enable long term planning and investment (20years) which will streamline the industry and allow it reach cost parity with traditional energy sources. Traditional energy sources have a massive head start in development, have been heavily subsidised, have not had the price of CO2 placed on them and are ultimately limited in supply. If Australia does not take proactive steps in developing alternative energy supplies we will compromise our future economic stability.
- It will account for the real value of Solar PV energy. As Solar PV feeds into the grid during peak load it should be valued at an equitable rate. It is generally accepted that peak load energy can cost as much as five times base load energy.

- It will account for the benefit of “point of use” energy generation. This reduces the need for costly infrastructure, maintenance, and losses involved with transporting energy.
- It will encourage the take up of large cost effective renewable energy systems.
- It will not favour one technology over another, ultimately allowing all emerging technologies to compete equally.
- It is estimated that a FIT scheme will only impose as little as a 1% rise in cost of the standard energy tariff but result in as much as 500% increase in uptake of renewable energy.
- It will allow for the phasing out of rebate schemes that ultimately were not meant for long term growth of the industry.
- Although CO2 trading schemes and MRET are being developed they will not effectively value renewable energy technologies for quite some time. An effective FIT will effectively value renewable energy immediately ensuring Australia does not fall behind in developing security of energy supply.

I look forward to the findings of the Inquiry and a positive outcome for renewable energy, the environment and ultimately the long term sustainability of Australia’s economy.