

July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2008

**SUBMISSION RE SAVE OUR SOLAR (SOLAR REBATE PROTECTION)**  
**BILL 2008**

I am very disappointed that the Federal Government has decided to means test the Solar Rebate. This is a big mistake if you wish to be seen to be attacking the massive problems associated with climate change. Already there is media evidence that people are cancelling orders for solar products once they no longer have access to the rebate. On the contrary you should be supporting these new renewable energy producers instead of relying on fossil fuels so that Australia could lead the world in these environmentally friendly products. There is the potential for Australia to massively increase solar and other renewable technologies and with it the employment of hundreds more workers.

In Denmark for example over the past 20 years there has been an exponential increase in wind power. They now employ 20,000 people in the wind energy industry and have an annual turnover of \$2.6 billion with a growth rate matching that of the Internet and Mobile Phones. They have over 5000 wind turbines which provide enough electricity to supply over a million homes. <sup>1</sup> When you compare the size of their land mass to Australia we could achieve a massive increase in output here.

The millions of dollars to be spent on advertising carbon trading should instead be spent on solar rebates without delay.

From Estelle Ross