

Sorry for my late submission

This means test on the rebate has meant at least one less home has solar panels on it. I am currently in the process of building a house for our young family and prior to the budget was intending to install a 1kw Solar panel on our roof in an effort to make a small contribution to the reduction in the use of non renewable energy. However with the introduction of the means test we will not be able to afford the additional \$8000 that the panel will cost. We are already installing a heat pump hot water system at additional cost and even on an income of more than \$100,000 it is not easy to find this money given the rising costs of fuel, rising interest rates increases in building materials (Steel has gone up 70% in the last 10 months). It seems that people building new homes are now required to make their houses water and energy efficient all out of there own pocket while those living in existing houses get the benefits of all the government rebates.

The most amazing part about the introduction of this means test is that Kevin Rudd can be such a hypocrite as to use a solar industry plant to promote his "GREEN" credentials in March 2007 and then do a preverbial backflip by bring in the means test. I don't remember that being promised during the election!!!

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