

Dear Senate Committee

I am writing this letter to display my disappointment and disillusionment of the Federal Government's introduction of a means test for the Solar Panel Rebate Scheme. In light of the imminent introduction of the emissions trading scheme and our concern for reducing our carbon footprint our family was very keen to install a 1 kilowatt solar panel into our family home. However, the \$100,000 means test has meant that we would not be eligible for the rebate. We hardly consider us 'high flyers' in the income world, I am a high school teacher and my wife is a registered nurse so we were dumbfounded when we worked out we were no longer eligible, even considering my wife is working part time.

I wonder how anyone earning under \$100,000 would now be able to afford the panels. Is the means test an indirect way of saying we don't really see Solar Electricity being of any value whatsoever. That is the signal that the decision is sending. If that is the case give us a rebate for something the government considers a better alternative. If not then do not rob those people who are generally trying to do the right thing from doing it.

I also would like to see the scheme go further with the government increasing its rebate to panels bigger than the 1 kilowatt system. I am not sure why you would stop there apart from the cost to the government. In a term that would be familiar to Mr Rudd though, " You reap what you sow" meaning that you would get the benefits from your outlay in other ways anyway.

Yours Sincerely

The Fairs Family