

To Whom It May Concern,

My wife and I have recently cancelled our order for a 1kW rooftop photovoltaic array for our residence in Brisbane following the addition of the means test to the \$8000 Federal Government rebate.

Our total taxable income for the financial year ended 30th June 2008 is around \$103,000. We are currently channelling any savings to service the mortgage on our residence and cannot justify the full \$12,500 required to install the array.

We were intent on putting solar power onto our roof as an environmental concern - the financial rate of return is not large following the Queensland Government's intention to offer a net (rather than gross) feed-in tariff for which almost no installations would qualify for the 44c/kWh payment.

I work in a large workplace where the vast majority of staff are in households with an income of less than \$100,000. I have never heard any of these people discuss putting a photovoltaic array on their roof. Despite the rebate, the remaining \$3,500-\$4,500 requirement is beyond their budgets whilst paying regular bills, mortgage payments and the cost of raising families.

I believe the demographic that will consider installing a photovoltaic array on their homes is almost exclusively outside of the under-\$100,000 household threshold.

Without sufficient uptake of the rebate offer, I am concerned that the PV industry in Australia will fall back and take many years to recover. Visitors from European nations already comment on the disappointing coupling of an excellent solar source with an underdeveloped PV industry in Australia.

The means test should be either removed or raised to a threshold that truly represents a "wealthy" household considering today's average income.

I would be most happy to attend and speak at any local form of enquiry that should be run in or near Brisbane.

Yours Sincerely,

Chris Turnbull