

Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



By email to: eca.sen@aph.gov.au

13th August 2008

RE: Inquiry into Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008

– Supplementary Submission –

The Alternative Technology Association (ATA) welcomes the opportunity to provide this additional evidence to the Inquiry into Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 (the Bill), following our appearance before the Committee on the 28th of July 2008.

During evidence given before the Committee hearing on the 28th of July, in response to a question from Senator Birmingham, I mentioned that ATA sent a letter to the minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts requesting a meeting to discuss the decision to apply a means test to the Solar Homes and Communities rebate. This letter was sent on the 30th May 2008.

At the hearing Senator Birmingham requested further information about the nature of any response which was received from the Minister's office in response to our request for a meeting. I was unable to answer this query at this time, and I undertook to determine the nature of any response from the Minister's office and provide this information to the Committee.

I have since learnt that we received a phone call from the Minister's office in response to the letter, in the weeks following our initial correspondence. During the phone call there was a commitment from the minister's staff to follow up with additional correspondence organising a meeting. However, no such correspondence has yet been received.

Further Contact

Feel free to contact myself, ATA Energy Policy Manager, Brad Shone, if you have any questions regarding the content of this supplementary submission. I am available directly on (03) 9631 5406 or via email at: brad@ata.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Shone', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Brad Shone
Energy Policy Manager
ATA