

I would like to express my total disagreement with the introduction of means testing the solar rebate for household PV Solar installations. When I first heard that there was a PV Solar installation activity going on in my neighbourhood, I thought that it would be prohibitively expensive. Then I found out that there was an \$8000 rebate to support the initiative. And I thought that that was a great idea. Australia (even Melbourne) is ideally suited to solar energy generation, even on a small scale such as the 1kv systems being offered. I have signed up for and received approval for the rebate, luckily submitting my paperwork just before the rebate was means tested, as I would not have been able to receive a means tested rebate. And without that rebate, I would not progress with the installation.

By means testing the rebate, while still providing an opportunity, it is no longer appealing to the segment of the market who is most likely to take up this opportunity. A \$100,000 combined income is surely a lower level income, which barely provides enough to support a family, mortgage, vehicles and the like. A PV Solar energy system is a "luxury" item, which only those with excess disposable income are likely to take up. It is very unlikely that a family with a \$100,000 combined income will have excess disposable income to spend on this sort of "luxury" item.

This is an opportunity for the government to support local industries, create a new model of power generation, foster and create jobs and start to reduce carbon emissions related to energy generation.

Yet the Labour government has blown this opportunity by means testing the rebate. Surely this is a very poorly thought out action, with consequences that impact the solar industry, manufacturing, employment, the future viability of this industry and even on greenhouse gas emissions in the future.

Regards, Jak Grimm