

22/7/09

The Secretary
Senate Economics Legislation Committee
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Parliament House
Canberra, ACT, 2600
Email: economics.sen@aph.gov.au

Solaris Technology Pty Ltd
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Re: Submission to the Senate Economics Legislation Committee on the Renewable Energy Bills

Solaris Technology are a leading South Australian Based Solar Energy provider and installer with a branch office in Western Australia. We have been established since 1996 and have seen this great industry grow from a humble cottage industry, to what is about to be a mainstream product with massive employment opportunities and economic benefits. We currently employ 19 staff ranging from management, tradesman and 3 adult apprentices.

The recent SHCP (Solar Homes and Communities Program) has been enormously successful, and has demonstrated how, with the right government incentives, the Australian public are eager to take up renewable energy, and how seriously Australians are taking the issue of Climate Change.

Our current situation is critical and one of urgency. Without the certainty of the new Solar Credits Scheme, based on the REC's multiplier, the previous momentum generated by government and industry will be lost, and a massive number of specialised people in the renewable energy industry will be made redundant.

The backlog of work generated under the SHCP program has been good for us in this uncertain time, as it has enabled us to keep people gainfully employed, HOWEVER, this work will be completed by OCTOBER 2009, after which date we will have no other option than to make staff redundant.

What we urgently need is for the "Solar Credits" scheme and the RET (Renewable Energy Target) legislation to be passed at the next sitting of parliament.

This single piece of legislation will be the backbone of the Renewable energy industry in Australia, providing thousands of jobs for hundreds of small and medium business spread across Australia. Of equal importance, it will allow the subsidies and incentives to be industry funded, rather than relying on Government budgets.

Please give this issue your utmost urgent attention.

Yours Sincerely

Dwayne Lange
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