

The below submission has been lodged and confirmed on the AEMC Web site.

Submission Type: Market Review

Reference: Access, pricing and incentive arrangements for distributed energy resources

Organisation: private resident

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Comments: Dear CEO Mr Ben Barr, Why doesn't the AEMC charge the coal producers, coal fired power stations and (gold plating) owners of poles and wires a suitable levy for over supply of electricity and redundant/out-of-date energy sources, technologies and distribution infrastructure so that these stakeholders wake-up out their complacency, and rapidly change there business models, start adopting new technologies, VPPs, renewable sources of energy!

According to the Sydney Morning Herald "...Australians with rooftop solar panels could soon be charged for exporting electricity to the grid, under new rules being recommended by the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC)...". I am in the progress of installing solar + battery after many years of uncertainty about the cost effectiveness and efficiencies. Recently, the limited publicity about closing down solar systems to "stabilise" the grid in South Australia smacked of political interference coupled with an archaic (past use by date) national grid system. As the new CEO with a background in QLD Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, projects support for solar and renewable sources of energy but raises a confused strategy that appears to support Owners of poles & wires. In NSW (where I live) the feed-in payment tariff for solar generated electricity is lower than any other State. Now the AEMC is proposing to slug solar generators with another penalty?

Why doesn't the AEMC advocate localised energy networks/farms, especially in the high population density urban areas so that these consumers can establish and develop localised VPPs (Virtual Power Plants)? The national grid was established on coal fired power stations and government revenue generation, a bit like the government charging a tax/excise on cigarettes. A VPP strategy with micro networks is the best approach to providing (renewable) electricity/power to the suburban populations, establishing stable urban battery storage for "all", not just the few. Mandating government/business incentives (including PPP, lease back arrangements) to install solar panels on "every roof" will ensure a stable supply to everybody. The sooner AEMC gets Australians off the fossil fuel train and onto renewables the better. AEMC proposal to penalise the uptake of renewables is short sighted, compromising the efforts of "early adopters" who happen to be "mums & dads & families" who recognise the terrible damage wrought by the fossil fuel industry, the dependence of coal fired power stations on the national power grid Yours sincerely Bryan Le Bransky