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**The Australian Energy Market Commission
GPO Box 2603
Sydney NSW 2001**

Policy for Export Electricity from Solar Rooftops

I refer to the publicity regarding the proposals by the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) to change the rules regarding exported electricity from domestic and industrial roof top solar systems.

As has been widely reported the installation of roof top solar has been a significant development in recent years. The trend of such installations shows no signs of abating. There are good reasons for this.

The continuing inertia of Australian Governments in implementing policies and actions that meaningfully address the issues of climate change is unacceptable. People installing solar believe, as I do, that this is at least something practical that we can do, i.e. install our own renewable systems.

The pricing policies that have been woefully managed by the electricity sector in recent years continues to hamper the credibility of the industry. Consumers have had no say, no influence and no satisfaction from the pricing tactics and collusion of the electricity providers. Again, people believe that by installing renewables we have some level of control over our electricity usage and cost.

In May 2018 we installed a 5KW solar panel system. At the time our feed in tariff was \$0.125 / Kwh. Since then there has been two reductions and the feed in tariff is now \$0.097. This is a reduction of 22%. In reality, the feed in tariff price is not such a massive issue in itself. But it's the underlying principle that is. This is that the proliferation of roof top solar is an expression of the population's concern about and commitment to renewables and to be able to engage in some level of effort to counter the issues related to climate change.

It is reprehensible for the industry to turn around and say, sorry everyone but our system can't cope with the quantity and timing of power being exported to the grid. Your industry has had decades to prepare for this eventuality. Your industry has failed and is continuing to fail. Your industry is now considering penalising the long-suffering electricity consumers of this state.

Further, what is the logic behind the proposed charge to consumers of clean energy from renewable sources and the continued mammoth subsidies that Australian Governments hand out to the fossil fuel industries?

Your proposals are completely unfair and represent your Commission's pandering to the numerous failings and inequities that have pervaded your industry for years. Your propping up of the provider element in your industry seems at odds with the pronouncements of your independence as promulgated on your web site.

Yours faithfully

**David Rafferty
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