

Dear Sir,

I have been watching the efforts being made to try to reconcile the existing electricity generation industry with the new small solar generation industry. As the non renewable generation sector and government try to extract as much income to pay down the debt incurred during the drought years. The existing non renewable industry mostly ignores or even totally discounts the contribution of the renewable sector. They tell us that energy generation is falling. This is most likely true taken on the metered figures, but the component of renewable energy generated and used at source is not metered. If it could be added to the metered figures it would most likely show slight increase in generation. Here again the existing industry fails to recognize that many small generators make a power station. Admittedly solar does not work at night, but works best at midday when demand is high.

The system has been working on the electricity bill for years now with customers so confused they accept anything. First the price per Kwh went up even though the world price of coal fell to it's lowest in years or is it that the generator's are locked into fixed contracts for coal, if so it's time to re-negotiate. Then they figured out that because households with solar were not using as much grid power plus people were economizing by installing efficient lighting etc, increasing the price per Kwh was not getting the desired results. So now they are increasing the service to property charge, which is where the price increases should have been in the first place as the costs were in the gold plated poles and wire. Increasing the service to property you get a guaranteed income from all customers.

To make the system fairer for all customers I suggest that those with solar generation be payed a fair price for there surplus generation , possibly at the tariff 11 rate per Kwh. Because one day the existing arrangement will be challenged and found to be wanting. They should then pay an extra service to property rate to use the poles and wires of approx one third the existing rate as there surplus would most likely be consumed within the local three phase 240 grid. More technical input required here. This should allow for a smooth transition into the future when the global warming issue will become much more urgent.

To progress our move to non renewable forms of energy, plus combating the global warming issue, plus delaying the need for a new coal fired power station, I suggest a couple of simple thing the Government could do.

1. Legislate that within the next X years all HOT water for household or business use should have a solar component or buy green power. Monitor progress annually
2. Households with air conditioning must install at least 1.5 kw of solar panels as an of set or buy green power. Monitor progress annually.

Government making there corporations return predefined amounts is not a good look plus it makes the government beholding to it's demands be that good or bad. If government needs income it should get it directly from the community taxes/gst plus with Turnbull looking to increase the GST a way to pay back the deficit in a more up front way. The voter is not stupid, you can only fool him some of the time.

So above are a few ideas to hopefully start to re configure the system. Hope you can understand it.

Regards, R.Vanstone

