

15 April 2016

Queensland Productivity Commission
PO Box 12112
George Street QLD 4003

Solar Feed-In Pricing in Queensland

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Draft report into Solar feed-In Pricing in Queensland (the report).

Simply Energy is a leading energy retailer servicing Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales and South East Queensland. Simply Energy is a member of the Australian Energy Council (AEC).

Simply Energy supports the key conclusion that consumers who invest in solar photovoltaics (solar PV) receive a good return of value on their investments through the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES) and retailer competitive Feed-in Tariff (FiT) offers on offer in South East Queensland. As a result, Simply Energy supports the draft report's view that a regulated FiT is not required.

Simply Energy does not believe that any initiative or benefit to solar PV owners should be provided to the detriment of other electricity consumers in South East Queensland, including setting feed-in tariffs levels that would materially impact vulnerable customers.

Crucially, the report provides a summary on the regulatory options available. Simply Energy believes that regulating a FiT has little to no positive impact on the consumers who receive it, and this comes at significant a cost that is borne by consumers as a whole. Regulated FiT adds industry and regulator's costs that are borne by all consumers and makes a minimal difference to the consumers that do receive FiT.

Simply Energy believes solar PV consumers would be better served by information that can assist PV consumers to evaluate the offers available to them. This can help alleviate the concerns solar PV owners may have about solar exports not being treated equitably and seeking a mandated minimum FiT.

Please don't hesitate to contact Alan Love on (03) 8807 5113, or at alan.love@simplyenergy.com.au, if you wish to discuss this submission further.

Yours sincerely

James Barton
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