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From: Kevin & Jan Smith (Mills) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 14 September 2012 2:53 PM
To: General Electricity Address
Subject: Review of Solar Feed in Tariff

Queensland Competition Authority

Submission regarding the issues paper "Estimating a Fair and Reasonable Solar Feed-in Tariff for Queensland".

My name is Kevin Smith and I have a small domestic PV installation and currently receive the 44 cents per kWh feed-in tariff.

I would like the Review to consider 2 points that I feel strongly about.

1/ My understanding is that for those customers who are currently in the 44 cent feed-in tariff scheme, who relocate to another property, when they shift, will not be able to take their 44 cent agreement with them. That is, if I wanted to shift to another property and installed a solar PV system on the new property, I would be required to enter into the 8 cents per kilowatt hour agreement.

I believe that, as one of the people who had a PV system installed in the earlier times of the scheme's introduction when, as your "Issues Paper" quite rightly points out, the cost of a solar PV system was higher, then we should be able to take our agreement with us to our new property. That is to say, in the new property still be under the 44 cent feed-in tariff agreement. Fair enough the new occupant of my current property could enter into a new agreement at 8 cents per kWh or whatever the feed-in tariff is at that time.

2/ The feed-in tariff at 8 cents is not justifiable or sustainable. Queensland is supposed to be the "Sunshine State"

The feed-in tariff should be at least on a one for one basis. That is, the same amount as the power consumed cost per kWh. That is, if the domestic consumer cost of tariff 11 power is 25 cents, then the feed-in tariff should also be 25 cents. As the cost of power changes over time, then the feed-in tariff should follow it. The feed-in tariff is only a net arrangement where the excess power not used by that household is fed to the network.

It may be argued by the distribution network businesses that they should be purchasing their power from any supplier at less than the retail amount they normally sell it to their consumers for. It should not be overlooked that most of the power generated by PV systems installed on domestic residences, is fed out to the distribution network and consumed by industry at higher cost per kWh than the domestic rate. It would take how many thousands of household PV installations to generate enough net power to supply say one shopping centre in their area. If the feed-in tariff is not adequate to make it viable for the installation of small PV systems to continue, then the generation and distribution of power will need to be increased to keep up with the future demand.

I trust you will take my views into consideration.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any clarification.

Regards

Kevin Smith

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