

14th August 2019

Senate Standing Committees on Economics
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

ATTN: Committee Secretariat

RE: Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Productivity Commission Response Part 2 and Other Measures) Bill 2019

Cosmos Solar Pty Ltd is a small to medium sized business operating in Queensland. We employ about 9 people and specialise in water heating systems and related products.

We have been advised that if the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Productivity Commission Response Part 2 and Other Measures) Bill 2019 is passed, the innovation patent system will be removed. We are opposed to this Bill because innovation patents are imperative for protecting our IP.

Protecting the type of innovation in our business is, in some instances, not appropriate for standard patents. Given the risks involved with running a small business, we prefer to avoid the greater degree of uncertainty, higher costs, and longer application times associated with standard patents. This is why we utilise the fast and affordable protection that the innovation patent system provides.

We are the owner of two innovation patents (numbers AU 2014101175 and AU 2013101478) which cover our water heating system and equal access barbeque products. In this regard, innovation patents have been a critical part of our business strategy because we are able to obtain rapid patent protection to prevent our competitors from copying our products.

We believe that if the innovation patent system is removed, strategies for protecting our innovations will be diminished. To be clear, without the benefits that innovation patents provide, we will be less likely to invest the time and money required for developing our own IP in Australia.

We therefore urge Parliament not to pass this Bill.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Hurley

Managing Director