

My name is Bryan M'Crystal.

I wish to submit that while electricity prices are of MAJOR concern to all consumers, there are also serious impediments to those of us who have elected to instal PV Solar systems to their dwelling.

Effective 30/5/2012 we have installed a 5130w. Back to grid solar system. Concurrent with this step we converted our retail supply from "Country Energy" to AGL.

Our final bill from "Country Energy" for the period 7/03/2012 to 29/05/2012 (83 days) was for 1455 units(kwh) ie. 17.53 units(kwh) per day. Our first bill from AGL for the period 30/05/2012 to 06/07/2012, commensurate with the operation of our newly installed solar system, was for 1184 units(kwh) over 38 days ie. 31.16 units(kwh) per day. When combined with our solar generation it would appear that our daily usage had leapt to more than 40 units (kwh) per day. An increase of 2 to 3 times our previous usage! At the same time our new system exported 218 units(kwh) ie.5.74units(kwh) per day at the munificent allowance from AGL. of 8.0c per kwh.

Whilst we believe there is some fault with either the meters supplied by "Essential Energy" or the installation thereof, we are unable to obtain any possible explanation from the installer, retailer or distributor.

At 7.00pm this evening we were informed by AGL that they were having difficulty with cooperation from 'Essential Energy' who are insisting their meters are new & do NOT require testing.

With the current awareness of climate change & the deleterious effect of carbon emissions, it appears passing strange that private individuals (in our case – part pensioners) who have invested some \$10,000 endeavouring to ameliorate the rising cost of power as well as carbon emissions should be treated with contempt by such powerful entities as Essential Energy & AGL.

Regarding prices; We have checked back to bills for the period to June 2010 with a domestic rate of 15.6c. Our latest bill has a rate of 32.26c more than double , in little over 2 years. No doubt your committee is aware.

During the same period, the daily supply charge has risen from 39.0c per day to \$1.288c, an increase of some 230%. We realise that private households are relatively unimportant in the scheme of things, but would appreciate some acknowledgment of our input.