



ENVIRONMENT  
TASMANIA INC

Simon Branigan  
Policy Coordinator  
Environment Tasmania Inc  
PO Box 1073  
Hobart 7001

The Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Environment,  
Communications and the Arts  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

15 August 2008

**Submission on the inquiry into Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008**

Dear Committee Members,

This submission has been prepared in response to the Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts invitation for comment on the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008. Environment Tasmania (ET) is in support of the legislative changes that will boost the adoption of renewable energy (RE) technologies.

ET is Tasmania's conservation council. It was formally launched in December 2006, and represents more than 20 conservation groups from right across Tasmania – collectively representing more than 6000 Tasmanians. The organisation is not-for-profit and is structured to ensure its clear independence and apolitical nature, its fair decision-making processes, its accountability to its member conservation groups, and its adherence to the goals of the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of Tasmania's natural environment.

ET welcomes the opportunity to provide comment to this inquiry.

Considerations in forming our views are outlined below.

**National feed-in tariff**

The feed-in tariff (FiT) system is currently used throughout the world. German Parliamentary Greens MP, Hans-Josef Fell, who pioneered their FiT electricity system, claims that there has been a 100 million tonne reduction in carbon emissions in Germany whereas emissions trading only lead to a 9 million tonne reduction (Financial Standard 2008).

The Australian Governments initiative to ratify the Kyoto Protocol (and consequent Bail discussions) places further emphasis on introducing further incentives for the uptake of renewable energy alternatives.

Finally, Environment Tasmania congratulates the Committee for taking the initiative in calling for public comment on this proposed Amendment. Climate Change important State and global issue.

Sincerely,

**Simon Branigan**  
**Policy Coordinator**  
**Environment Tasmania**

#### **References**

**Financial Standard 2008, accessed 14 August 2008,**  
**<<http://www.financialstandard.com.au/index.php?id=12587>>.**