

Dear Mr David Jarratt,

Thank you for your letter C08/1600 (attached page 1&2) dated 30 may 08 which was responding to our letter of objection to the means testing of the rebate under the Solar Homes & Communities Plan.

Thank you for highlighting the 9 relevant points in your letter, which the Government is proposing to reduce Greenhouse emissions. In response:

- Unfortunately most of us already have solar hot water systems
- Unfortunately most of us have no children at school
- Most of us would appreciate this rebate to install solar power systems
- This is really covered by the first point re solar hot water systems
- Most of us are computer literate, we already know how to surf the internet for this information
- Most of us know about energy efficiency labels
- Most of us have installed rain water tanks, however some of us are not entitled to rebates due to location
- Most of us own our homes we are not renters,
- Most of us are not rural, we are already connected to the grid for our electricity

We have considered the above initiatives and realise there is only one area where this current Government can assist us, as average Australians, to make a difference, and that is linked to the \$8K rebate for solar power systems. UNFORTUNATELY you have cut it off.

The 'Baby Boomers' are dual income, no dependant children, pay private health insurance, pay mortgages or own their own homes and are community minded. Most of us earn joint incomes in excess of \$100K but stopping short of \$150K. In other areas of Government means testing begins at \$150K which is a fair cut off point.

This same demographic group have lived through a time when they have NOT had the assistance of family support for singles, that have NOT had support for 'first home buyers grant', that have NOT had 'babv bonus', that have endured interest rates up to 19% on home loans, with no tax relief, and now seem to be paying the rebates for everyone else. Perhaps it is worth remembering that these people also vote, and many, like us thought that we were voting for a government who's intent was to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to consider the environmental impact of fossil fuels on this country.

In the light of this, \$100K solar power means test seems to be a deliberate act to curtail the future growth of the fledgling solar power industry. UNFORTUNATELY this act will not only hamstring the baby boomers who are eager to install energy efficient systems but will also reduce the effectiveness of this country to reduce greenhouse emissions at a time when it can ill afford the cost .

Please reconsider adjusting the means test limit to \$150K, placing it in line with other means tests introduced by the 08/09 budget, before insurmountable damage is done to this industry.

Janette and Andrew Bailey