

Dear Sir/ Madam

Please find below a copy of a letter sent to the Prime Minister about the solar rebate changes.

We hope this can add some weight to the argument in favour of retaining the rebate.

Yours faithfully

Peter and Janice Rowan

14 July 2008

Dear Mr Rudd

I am writing to you regarding the recent decision to impose a means test upon the rebate on the installation of photo voltaic power in domestic homes.

I am dismayed at the decision to cut off the rebate at an arbitrary sum of \$100 000 income per household. This benchmark implies wealth. My wife and I are primary school teachers in the state system and I assure you that we in no way consider ourselves being wealthy. A means test with a sliding scale would have been fairer and more inclusive. The obvious must also be stated that, those on less than \$100 000 are going to be in a lesser position to expend savings on the installation of photo voltaic power.

My wife and I have just received a windfall from the demutualizing of MBF and sought to do something that will value add from a personal, social and environmental perspective in regard to the installation of photo voltaic cells. This endeavour and choice has been, I believe, unfairly taken from us.

Other aspects of our disappointment in this decision have a professional component. We both include environmental and sustainability concerns in our curriculum and when we set out to practice what we preach we have been derailed by what appears to be a petty decision. We also convey to our classes the notion of representative democracy being 'Government of the People, by the People, for the People.' This decision to impose the means test most certainly fails this definition of Representative Government.

Both my wife and I anticipate a prompt and favourable response.

Yours faithfully,
Peter and Janice Rowan