

Thank you for the opportunity to inform you of the impact that means testing the solar rebate grant has had on me.

I have recently completed an electrical apprenticeship and BCSE accreditation with the aim of establishing a career in Renewable Energies.

In April of this year I made the decision to start sub contracting to a company that sells and installs PV systems. I initially took this on as one day a week with the intention of leaving my full time employment and sub contracting full time. At this stage there was an abundance of customers interested in installing grid feed PV systems and my future looked secure.

Then came the budget and the decision to means test the Solar rebate grant. Work from the company has decreased so that my idea of working full time as a PV system installer is no longer viable. I now have to continue working for an electrical contractor, installing electrical equipment that consumes energy produced by a plant that burns fossil fuel, instead of installing systems that would have generated clean renewable energy!!

There is still an industry installing PV systems, but by means testing the Solar rebate grant, the growth of the industry has been severely curtailed. At a time when the world needs clean renewable energy, we need to assist industries that help us to a healthier future.

Please don't means test the Solar Rebate grant, if anything we need more incentives to install solar power not less.

I am interested in appearing at a public hearing into this matter,

regards

florian geier