

21st July 2008

Dear Senators,

Please accept this submission to support removal of the means test on the \$ 8000.00 solar rebate.

As a BCSE qualified Solar Designer on the Mid North Coast of NSW, I would like to submit the following points for your consideration.

75% of the Grid Connect PV installations (25) I have completed have been from households earning more than \$100,000. I employ 3 local electrical contractors on a casual basis to do this work.

Since the means test we have had only one new approval.

Grid connect PV with Government incentives is a great example of public / private cooperation to reduce our carbon emissions.

Placing distributed generation on private property is recognised world wide as a workable and practical solution to energy efficiency and electricity demand.

Combined with a national standard gross metered feed in tariff Australia could again become a leader in PV technology and take up. We are now regrettably the country with the largest solar radiation and the lowest PV deployment.

In Germany practically overnight, a government incentive system has created a new industry that is now top of the world. Approximately 10,000 German companies are developing and manufacturing components for the photovoltaic and thermal solar energy market, employing 54,000 people. According to industry sources, this figure will rise dramatically 2020. Thirty-five per cent of production goes into export markets; 70 per cent by 2020.

Thank you

Stuart