

Dear Sir,

First let me thank the Commission for the opportunity to comment on the "Draft Decision on Minimum Electricity Feed-In Tariff for 2016". On reading the report I am aware that comments are sought on the methodology used. I can understand the methodology used and the conclusions derived. I also realise, as stated in the report, that if a different methodology was used then a different conclusion re costs would be derived. I am 74 years of age, widowed, live on my own, am scientifically qualified with a research background. Such a background assists me in more readily understanding the methodology used in arriving at the draft decision.

After carefully considering my electricity consumption I decided in March 2013 to install a 1.75 kw PV system. In June 2013 I was connected to the Grid at a cost of \$281 (my electricity retailer is Origin Energy and the supplier is Powercor). Initially the rebate to me was 8 cent/kw which changed to 6.2 cents/kw on 1/1/2015 and from 1/1/2016 was proposed to be 5 cents/kw. Since 3/6/13 my system has supplied 2077 kw to the grid. At 8 cents/kw that would have amounted to \$166 (equivalent to \$80/year), at 6.2 cents/kw to \$129 (equiv. to \$62/year and at 5 cents/kw \$104. (equiv. to \$50/year). At those rates it would take 3.5, 4.5 and 5.6 years just to cover the cost of connection to the grid (I appreciate some costs are occurred by the retailer and the supplier).

When I consider the cost of my system, the cost of the connection to the grid, the amount of electricity I generate by the PV cells, the amount of the generated power I use (which only occurs during daylight hours) and the amount I sell to the grid I estimate at 6.2 cents/kw it will take me 11.4 years to 'recover' the cost of the PV installation and the connection to the grid. I better live until at least 84 years of age (Incidentally it is clear that it is not likely for many people of my age to install a PV system)!

The point of my comment is just as the Commission has taken the costs of production, etc incurred by the retailers and suppliers into consideration I am interested to know whether it has taken into consideration the connection cost to the grid for the electricity generated by the householder's PV panels? As I see it this is a real and unavoidable cost incurred in supplying electricity to the grid and should therefore be taken into consideration.

Regards

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