

Rodney Roscholler

Submission to Draft Report (Energy Value)

8/5/16

Dear Sir,
thank you for holding this Inquiry, it is much needed.

we purchased an 11 panel 3KWH system via Energy Australia some six months ago.

we Paid the \$6,000 for two reasons.

we believed it was the right thing to do re global warming etc etc.

we believed it would be an increasingly good "investment"

hopefully the former still holds true, every little bit helps.

we have had very significant difficulties coming to a view on the latter. I have pursued it because I thought in time I might purchase a battery and maybe more panels. BUT i want this decision to be evidence based. it has been near impossible to get an understanding of the facts so that a decision can be logically be made.

lots of information on feed in Tariffs and lots of information on production via enphase software but precious little in the important information ie self consumed solar energy. after many phone calls to Energy Aus and the Energy Ombudsman I now believe I likely saved circa \$180 during the summer quarter on a near \$600 bill. this is no where near where I thought the savings would be. It represents a payback period of over 10 years , probably close to 15. its an appalling deal. i hate to imagine what the numbers will be like when winter sets in and when the panels start to age.

I have spoken to many people who have gone down the solar track for similar reasons to me. None are happy apart from a couple who got on board very early when feed in tarrifs were circa 60c per KWH.

I was told when I was in the market that in time we would not have to pay for electricity, and prices would be heading north, so "better get on board now" i was dismayed to be told by Energy Aus. a couple of weeks ago that savings would be between 20 and 40%. had I been told that prior to making a commitment I would probably not have proceeded. to me its clear misrepresentation.

I think the real issue is communication. people should be fully informed of the real likely outcome, in plain speak not tech speak before they commit.