

Geoff Cumming

Take a long term view of the grid and renewables

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Dear energy review,

Government policy should take a long term view and arrange policy and regulations to encourage rapid progress towards that ideal long term situation.

For energy, that simply must be a rapidly increasing contribution of renewables, rapidly dropping carbon emissions, and a grid that changes so it supports local exchanges and load balancing amongst a variety of energy sources, especially solar, wind, and perhaps other renewables, using dispersed battery storage in the best possible way.

To avoid ridiculous private over-investment required for many people to take their solar and battery systems off-grid, the grid fixed charges must be limited, and solar feed in prices increased to some reasonable middle level, probably around 12c / kwh. Then policy and political pressure must be brought to bear on the generating and distributing companies so they do the right thing, close coal generation, invest in storage for load balancing, and encourage private investment in solar PV, small and large.

Take the long view, take the high ground, be bold and correct.

Remember our children and grandchildren--the only people who really matter--and the vital importance to them that carbon emissions must be cut drastically, starting today and progressively dropping faster and faster, year by year over the next decade.