



12 January 2009

NSW Feed-in Tariff Taskforce  
Department of Water and Energy  
GPO Box 3889  
Sydney NSW 2001

## SUBMISSION

The Feed-in Tariff scheme (FiT) should apply to all renewable energy technologies and be available to businesses and households. The scheme should be designed so that it will achieve benefits in the short term and remain available for the long term.

Further comment is provided below on the Taskforce's key design elements:

1. *What factors should be considered in setting a tariff rate?*

The FiT should provide an incentive to invest in renewable technologies.

2. *Should the tariff be set for gross (all energy generated from the PV system) or net (energy generated less energy used by household)?*

The tariff should recognise the status of the renewable energy, regardless of whether it is fed into the grid. As the gross production from a PV or other alternate energy system directly reduces the demand for conventional power, the new scheme should apply to the gross amount of electricity produced.

3. *Should the tariff be based on a fixed rate or a variable rate consistent with time-of-use pricing for consumption?*

In order to accommodate the range of renewable technologies, tariffs should be payable at a fixed rate regardless of the time of production.

4. *Should the tariff be paid to solar PV owners by the electricity distributor or the electricity retailer?*

The current system should continue, with retailers managing all accounts and processing all transactions. Other arrangements are likely to be inefficient.

5. *How long should the Government maintain the FiT and should the rate be fixed for the entire life of the program or varied over time?*

The FiT should remain while ever NSW consumers have access to electricity produced by coal.

6. *What eligibility criteria should exist for the FiT?*

The only criterion should be a willingness to make a personal contribution to capital costs with these costs to be recouped over a period.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Piper', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Greg Piper, MP  
**Member for Lake Macquarie**