Inquiry into Energy Prices in Tasmania

With Tasmania able to be 100% self-sufficient from renewable energy why are prices for Tasmanian consumers based on interstate price? Yes we are part of the national electricity market for energy security, however Tasmanians consumers should be given the benefits of the past investment in renewable energy.

Given that Hydro Tasmania is making substantial profits and returning significant dividends to assist the Government fund activities there must be an opportunity to lower the cost of power to consumers to help householders and small business particularly at times where there are significant increases in many day to day costs.

Also given the increasing number of roof top solar panels being installed, Aurora is receiving a growing amount of cheap energy with the current feed in tariff at only 10.869 cents per kilowatt hour and selling it for up to 36.198 cents in peak times during daylight saving hours between 8am to 11am and 5pm to 10pm., without any supply charge being paid to the owner of the solar panels who have made the investment to produce the power.

This represents a markup of 333%. Is that reasonable?

In the same 5 minute period metered by Aurora, a solar power system owner can feed in power and be paid 10.869 cents per kilowatt hour but be charged 36.198 cents per kilowatt for power used.

Below is an extract from an Aurora meter reading based on a Tariff 31 & 41 user but the same would occur if using Tariff 93.

Is this reasonable?

Should the feed in tariff rate be linked in some way to the tariff being charged at the same time by Aurora? For example, should the mark up be set at say 150% which it is approximately for off-peak rates – 10.869cents FIT compared with Aurora charge 16.855 cents, which would mean the feed in tariff would be 24.132 cents in the peak period.

Geoff Harper

Meter ID	NMI	Reading Timestamp	Tariff	Tariff Description	Unit of Measure	Energy Supply/ Feed-in	Max Supply/ Feed-in (KW)
				Residential light and			
EDA72224719	8000217837	26/03/2023 9:00	TAS31	power - Tariff 31	KWH	0.0062	0.0744
				Heating and Hot Water -			
EDA72224719	8000217837	26/03/2023 9:00	TAS41	Tariff 41	KWH	0.0001	0.0012
				Standard FiT residential			
				customers Standard tariff			
EDA72224719	8000217837	26/03/2023 9:00	TASX4I	(X4I) - 140	KWH	0.0597	0.7164