

NSW SOLAR FACTS

May 16th 2011

**The following facts describe the solar industry in NSW today
and have been compiled by various Australian solar industry associations.**

The NSW Government are planning to retrospectively change Legislation
on the solar feed in tariff rate for 120,000 NSW (Solar Bonus Scheme) households
from 60c kW/h to 40c kW/h from 1st July.

We believe this is completely unjust, totally unwarranted and potentially unlawful.

At 11.30 am on Wednesday 18 May 2011 the Australian Solar Energy Society is calling on media, business, consumers,
installers, families and people interested in a sustainable future for Australia to

Rally To Save Solar at the Barnet Long Room, Customs House, 31 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney

We encourage you to support our fight to repeal these changes by using these facts to lobby your local Members of
Parliament with consistent messages, engaging with effected friends, family and colleagues to stand up for their rights,
contacting media and using social networking to spread the word.

NSW Solar Facts

- 8190 people employed in solar power in NSW; one of the fastest growing new employment sectors
- 846 Accredited solar Installers in NSW; the most of any State in Australia
- 120,000 households and businesses in NSW have solar; thousands of householders effected
- 210MW installed in the last 12 months; equivalent to a medium sized power station
- \$1.26b solar industry value in the past 12 months;
- \$123M solar industry GST revenue; creating income for the state
- 59% of installations in 2010 were outside Sydney ; solar means regional and urban job
- 204,000 tons of CO₂; the amount of GHG abatements from the systems installed in 2010
- \$263M/year is the real cost of the scheme; the Government got their numbers wrong
- \$41/year is the real cost per electricity consumer ; if the community shares the cost
- Utilities are making windfall profits from the solar bonus scheme by reselling exported solar energy
- Up to 8190 jobs are at stake due to lack of consumer confidence
- 30% drop in Installation levels compared to their peak
- 35% drop in job advertisements from their peak
- 40% of people will not have their systems paid back before the end of the scheme
- \$1B p/a is the cost to NSW taxpayers of coal subsidies in NSW
- Electricity Distribution Utilities are uncertain about how to process applications to connect
- Removing certainty of Government legislation undermines consumer and investor confidence

For verification and data sources see <http://www.sunwiz.com.au/NSWSolarFactSheet.pdf>

Contact John Grimes, CEO AUSES 0400 102 396



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Key Contacts

- John Grimes, AUSES, 0400 102 396, ceo@auses.org.au
- Geoff Bragg, NSW Chapter Chairman SEIA, 0429 233 241, nsw@seia.org.au
- Damien Moyse, ATA, 03 9631 5418, craig@ata.org.au

Social network links

- Rally home page <http://www.auses.org.au/solar-crisis-rally/>
- Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rally-for-Solar/211096198921304>
- Facebook event page: <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=131075640300692>
- Tweet using the tags [#NSWsolar](#) [#rallyforsolar](#)

Form Letter to register your protest:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am deeply concerned about the NSW decision to tear up the feed in contract the NSW Government has with the people of NSW.

I made an investment decision based on the rules laid out by the government. Now I am going to be punished for following the rules.

I am not alone. Over 120,000 households and businesses have invested large sums (\$3,500 to \$75,000) based on this legally binding promise, including a substantial amount in regional NSW.

Changing the rules retrospectively like this goes against the rule of law and fatally undermines public trust in government.

You need to act to restore fairness in NSW and protect the reputation of the state as a safe, stable place to invest and do business.

Do not allow this change to be made.

Vote **no** to retrospective cuts to solar, and **yes** to an immediate 1:1 feed in tariff in NSW.

