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Feed-in tariff eligibility for battery storage

SA Power Networks administers the Feed in Tariff Scheme (FiT) as required by legislation passed by State Parliament.

The legislation states that the only qualifying generator is a small PV generator that is connected in a way that allows electricity generated to be fed directly into the network.

The Department of Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources and Energy (DMITRE) discussed battery storage with SA Power Networks and agrees that battery storage is not included in the scheme and people with PV panels who install battery storage will no longer be eligible for FiT credits, as it will not be possible to identify the output of the PV generator.

Supporting customer choice

The inference from some commentators that SA Power Networks is opposed to emerging energy options is patently wrong. More than 170,000 of our customers have been approved for solar panels and people also have been able to connect wind and battery storage devices.

SA Power Networks supports customer choice in how they meet their energy needs, so long as their installations meet technical and safety requirements and do not cause issues for other customers on the grid.

In terms of administration of the FiT Scheme on behalf of the government, we are merely applying the requirements of the legislation.

As the costs of the scheme are recovered from all South Australian electricity consumers, we have a clear understanding from the government that in administering the scheme, the interests of all consumers should be protected by ensuring only those who are eligible receive a benefit.

About SA Power Networks

SA Power Networks is South Australia's electricity distributor, delivering electricity to more than 830,000 customers. We are one of South Australia's largest organisations, employing about 2000 people throughout metropolitan and regional SA. SA Power networks is 51% owned by Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited and Power Assets Holdings Limited, which form part of the Cheung Kong Group of companies. The remaining 49% is owned by Spark Infrastructure, which is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.