

Submission in response to the 2012 Renewable Energy Target review Issues Paper
Received from: Mark Coster
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Renewable Energy Target Review -Issue Paper SUBMISSION

RE: STC Clear House and clearance time frames.

The renewable energy scheme has allow us (like many others) to do our bit to improve energy efficiency and use, and have purchased solar panels via the STC clearing house which has made it a cost effective and viable venture for our family.

What this means is that we (and all the other families that have used the Clearing house) have purchased the solar panel system outright (for us it was approx. \$8000) with the understanding that the STC credits would be paid back to us at the Clearing house rate of \$40 per STC. This means we would get approx. \$6000 back making the overall purchase, cost effective for our family.

The STC clearing house has not paid out (to anyone) since February 2011. There was not a predefined date for payment, however industry expectations were that it would be no longer than 12 months. (Retailers were telling customers payment would be no more than 12 month).

Recommendation:

- More (clearer) information is provided on the STC clearing house repayment times, so STC sellers have a clear expectation about when they will receive payment and can budget accordingly. If the Clearing house actually cleared certificates with some certainty for families, people would have more confidence and certainty in the renewable energy schemes.
- Rather than spending new funding on new renewable energy schemes, use the new funding to finish off the schemes already established. This would also provide confidence and certainty for the community.
- The overall scheme is very confusing with STC prices, rebates, feed in tariffs all with start and end dates varying in each state. Publish a quick reference guide (cheat sheet) with purchase scenarios to fully inform potential participants of the scheme, which would also limit retails taking advantage of uninformed participants.

Sincerely
Mark Coster