Introduction

I am a Powercor customer from Victoria and responding to the public consultation on ‘Export tariff guidelines for distribution network export tariffs’, foremost while I understand the uptake of Rooftop Solar has been popular in the past, I am sure you would be aware considerable reduction in feed in tariff (FIT) have made a negative impact on the cost of ownership of solar industry in whole. Currently we have restrictions on how much we can export including pre-approvals for any additions.

I have recently installed solar hoping that I would reduce extensive electricity bills (roughly $500 month winter months) while I have noticed my exports would help to offset third of the consumption while FIT makes all exports worth cents on a dollar for generated power reduce that further lowest due to other factors such as Grid Voltage and losses in the system. I think its madness that this consultation for customer to have to pay for exported electricity while rest of world moves in different direction to what is being proposed.

Furthermore, somehow suggesting that customer will be able to have a fair price for export during peak hours when there are no alternatives storage options available to customers in the market to utilize and they are too expensive and out of the reach of most folk. Consultation document provides a misleading emphasis combining rooftop solar and battery adaptation that there would have also been a considerable adaptation of battery storage and that leads to a conclusion that customers is able to feed the produced power into grid by storing in non-existent solar batteries.

This changes no doubt force the customers to pay more for consumed electricity and to also pay for generated electricity and will only benefit retailers to keep them in business. If I am being a bit more sinical if this consultation were to proceed end result seems to have no benefit to consumers whatever the outcome may be.

Final notes that AER should look at more progressive approach to work with existing infrastructure to help reduce the burden on end user electricity bills and help counteract climate change. Couple of my thoughts which can improve the cost burden on everyone.

1. If power is excess during production why not provide no cost/low-cost electricity during a considerable rooftop solar generation time to reduce the load on the grid.
2. Community storage funded by AER or governments to store the generated power and re-use as and when needed.
3. Promote Solar battery adaptation with rebates or loans.
4. Offset certain percentage of usage for everyone who has grid connected rooftop solar.

Section 3.1 – Stakeholder engagement in relation to proposed export tariffs

1. Are there additional steps distributors can take or consider when engaging with their customers on export tariffs? Please explain them.

Response: If this were to proceed distributors should provide full clarity of costs involved in adding any additional export infrastructure that's required. We already pay for power distribution (poles and wires) with a daily charge.

Alternative options to have customer include not to proceed with all options if they are un-reasonable and or cause additional cost increase to customer.

No increase of electricity bills to customers.

Section 3.3 The AER's approach to applying the network pricing objective and pricing principles in relation to export tariffs

2. What are the drivers of the costs of expanding network export capacity?

Response: Distributor should also have transparency of investment versus on-going driver of costs.

3. Is the efficient cost of providing an export service different to the efficient cost of a consumption service? If yes, how are these costs different?

Response: It might be beneficial to use the electricity where it was produced rather than export which involves some sort of storage either customer or communal. If lot of people are using the power stored in the battery Grid will be more available for others to feed into.

4. What can distributors do in practice to demonstrate they have considered customer impact analysis when setting tariffs? For instance, how should distributors explain or quantify a negative customer impact analysis? Please give examples.

Response: Distributor has access to usage data of customers it would not be difficult to calculate the negative impact or otherwise based on default tariff for consumed and generated electricity.
Example would be look at historical data for customer generated and consumed electricity and calculate the impact analysis.

Section 3.5 Other Matters

5. *Are there other matters not listed in this section that stakeholders think should be included in the Guidelines? Please list them in order of importance, and explain why they should be included in the Guidelines.*

Response:
Checks as to if distributor have done everything to minimize the negative impact on the customer.

Checks as to retailer have done everything to minimize the negative impact on the customer. Ideally this is where things are expected to go wrong as retailer is most to benefit from this change.

Section 3.6 Provision of basic export level and export level guidelines

6. How should distributors define basic export level thresholds? What matters should be taken into account when defining basic export level thresholds?

Response:
Basic export threshold should be at current levels customers already exporting to grid. This approach will have minimal negative impact on who already invested in roof top solar particularly recent like myself.

Appreciate your time reading my responses and hope to have a decision in the benefit to all parties.

Regards,

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