
From: Victor Bivell [mailto:vbivell@ecoinvestor.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2009 12:36 PM
To: Robert Hansen; Environment and Resources Committee
Subject: Re: Environment and Resources Committee - update

Mr Rob Hansen
Research Director
Environment and Resources Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Hanson,

Thank you for the invitation to contribute to the Environment and Resources Committee's inquiry into Energy Efficiency Improvements in Queensland.

The Submission from Eco Investor Media is as follows.

As the Queensland Government has a number of energy efficiency policies already in place, one area where more could be done is distributed energy. I suggest two policy thrusts:

1. Encouraging the development of companies commercializing innovative distributed energy technologies. These may be in the areas of photovoltaics, combined heat and power, small wind, mobile biogas, fuel cells, small scale hydro, ocean, tidal and run of river energy systems, and other technologies.

Over the years Eco Investor Magazine has written about numerous Queensland companies and entrepreneurs who are commercializing technologies in most of these areas.

While some of these technologies fall under existing Federal and State development programs, it is likely that more can be done for these companies, both as a group and individually to assist them to the next stage of their commercialization.

2. Encouraging consumer take up of distributed energy systems. While Federal assistance is in place for photovoltaic systems, there may be room for additional assistance from the Queensland Government to encourage the take up of small wind, mobile biogas, small hydro, fuel cells when they become available next year, combined heat and power units when they become available, and the range of wave, tidal and run of river systems.

Increased availability and utilization of distributed energy systems by households and by commercial, industrial and Queensland government users would increase energy efficiency, reduce demand from the grid, and delay the need to build new capital intensive power stations.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Yours faithfully

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