

From: Nomad Electrics
Sent: Thursday, 21 April 2011 4:40 PM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: Electricity price increases?

I don't agree with your article on blaming solar for increases in electricity price. Everyone knows that you can charge what the market will bear. Making people dependent means their willing to pay more. How much could a bottle of water be charged at in a rainforest with clean streams? 10 cents maybe. How much in the Sahara? \$100 maybe. Just like a drug dealer you can charge what you like if their desperate. That's pricing, that's greed.

Now for something completely different, cost of production and distribution.

If peak electricity occurs when all air con units are running simultaneously on a hot day as happens then all infrastructure from the coal powered generators, HV transmission lines, Sub-stations, grid distribution, transformers, URD, etc must be capable of carrying multiple times average consumption on such periods. How much does this cost? \$13,000 per A/C unit installed I have read. Hmmm. What costs less than \$13,000 per install, operates in the peak of hot sunny days when A/C units run and is a distributed source of power supply at the point of usage eliminating the need for excessive transmission infrastructure? And those having invested in solar will take years to get their money back to pay for their Solar installations before making a profit. Those investors collecting on gross metering would be such a small component of overall production at this elementary stage of renewable energy that their impact would be negligible. Hmmm, that's right, the incentives were there to give renewable energy a kick start in its elementary stages because it needs them to become main stream and cheaper in future.

Another thing;

Oil companies ain't going to stop drilling for oil so carbon tax is pointless. You go tell them to give it up, we're all going electric vehicle.

However. The electricity industry wouldn't care if production was by mice in treadmills connected to thousands of paralleled generators instead of coal if it could be done as long as it gets tariffed. Therefore, solar can get a foot in the door in this industry and have a real impact on carbon and global warming and what not.

Solar makes sense