Craig Walters

Submission to True Value of ,Distributed Generation Inquiry

11/2/16

I disagree with the refusal to focus on private benefit because it is private persons being motivated that will ultimately produce an overall public benefit. Jgnoring the drivers of private benefit could result in private people acting in their interests with perhaps little or no public benefit accruing e.g. disconnecting from the grid and running on batteries (as we are currently in the process of doing).

It is ridiculous that the inquiry is not considering the costs of connecting distributed generation to network. This will chop up the inquiries findings to make them meaningless. As consumers our power bill makes it quite clear that we pay for the connection and transmission costs, regardless as to which way the electricity is flowing one second to the next! As there is little incentive to sell power to the grid over lines for which a rental has already been paid, the concept of 'communities' establishing structures to share electricity between themselves first and then secondly to/from the grid is arising. For this reason giving consumers a fair value for electricity generated (including the ability to have time-of-use feed-in tariffs) is long overdue. I agree with the Commission's proposal to develop a methodology for calculating

the time-of-use benefit of the electricity produced by a distributed generator. For ease of understanding, I support using the peak, off-peak and shoulder periods in place for time-of-use pricing.

Resilience of a distributed network to cope with loss of major transmission lines or power generators is a social benefit that needs to be investigated.

I support the Commission in examining the economic benefit of distributed generation to distribution network.