

From: Cllr. Colm Carthy <Colm.Carthy@cllr.monaghancoco.ie>
Sent: 03 October 2017 09:55
To: National Planning Framework
Subject: Submission: NPF - PV Solar Panels - Domestic Rebate scheme

A chara,

I would like to request that consideration be given to introducing a rebate scheme for electricity customers who add Solar Panels to their dwellings (private customers as opposed to commercial customers).

A similar model to the one used in Australia should be considered – a customer pays for their solar panels (including the fitting/installation) and are then connected to the electricity grid using an inverter. This means that the electricity generated by the panels (during the day – which would probably not be used by many who work, attend school etc) could be fed to the grid and then the value of that electricity would be taken off their bill. Also, depending on their usage, in some cases, the unused electricity could garner them financial payback. Note: The value of this electricity could be less than that which is created in existing power plants (burning of fuels).

At present, a similar model is in place in the north of Ireland. I live in Carrickmacross and I only have to travel a few miles into Co. Armagh and I see every second or third house with PV Solar panels.

This suggestion will be cost neutral for the state as they would not have to provide any grants or pay for the panels, inverters etc. In terms of the electricity grid, the cost of making modifications could be recouped by the cheaper electricity generated.


Please note, both Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District Council and Monaghan County Council have passed motions calling on this rebate scheme to be introduced.

I would ask that you seriously consider this proposal as there will be full buy-in by the public. I understand that the Government is intending on introducing a rebate scheme but only to commercial providers – this will lead to acres of land (which could be used for agriculture, housing etc) being used to fit 1000's of panels and the benefactors will be private business; this will not be appreciated by the public (we have already seen objections to plans for solar farms).

I look forward to hearing back from you on this issue and I would ask that you do the right thing.

If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact me.

Is mise,

Cllr. Colm Carthy


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