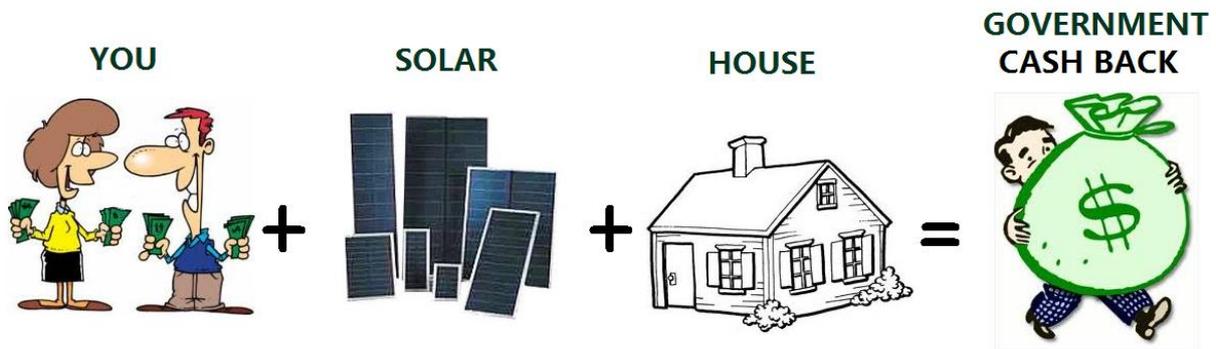


CURRENTLY OFFERED INCENTIVES

There are currently two types of incentives for solar electricity installations.

The first type is mostly known as system **upfront-cost discount or government rebates**. This rebate is earned when you install or upgrade your solar electricity system. Whenever you install or upgrade a system, you generate a certain amount of certificates. These certificates have a market price (which fluctuates depending on the number of installations during that period) and can be sold to STC clearing houses. Generally, the company who does the installation for you completes the paperwork after installation to claim money by selling the certificates generated by the installation of the system. So the prices you get quoted often are "after-rebate" prices because the paperwork to claim those rebates is lengthy and complicated. Customers usually do not want to claim themselves so the installation company usually claims on behalf of the customers (please note that you can only claim after the solar system is fully installed). These rebates are offered to properties that install solar electricity systems for the first time or those who wish to upgrade.



To see how much certificates a solar electricity system generates, go to:
<https://www.rec-registry.gov.au/squCalculatorInit.shtml>

Then to see how much each certificate can be sold for, check the current STC spot market price at:
<http://www.cleanenergycouncil.org.au/>

E.g. A 1.5 kW upgrade (typically 8 panels system) will generate 31 certificates. 31 certificates sold for \$28 each gives a total of \$868. If it's a new installation it will generate 31 x 2 = 62 certificates which can be sold for \$1736.

The other type of incentive is called a **feed-in-tariff or electricity payback** (or buyback). This type of incentive is earned by selling your excess energy produced from your system back to your electricity provider. Now the current rate is around \$0.06/kWh or \$0.08kWh for most electricity retailers but some companies has stopped giving out this incentive. It's better to consult your electricity provider before purchasing solar. Some of our customers simply change to another company that offers some electricity buyback rate but it is known that companies that are offering are reducing. This incentive does not have a set date so it could change anytime with a change in policy of a company or government, which adds uncertainty and risk to the scheme. However, there are organisations that lobby for good support for solar, such as Solar Citizens. Because it is just to keep these incentives in place, they ought to remain so and lobbying organisations will help to do this.

