

PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SYSTEMS - GOVERNMENT REBATE

**316. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy:**

I refer to question without notice 251 in relation to the five per cent state government rebate previously made available for the purchase of photovoltaic power systems. For the period 2001 until the depletion of funding, please advise -

- (1) The number of grants administered?
- (2) How many of these funded photovoltaic systems are located in -
  - (a) rural towns;
  - (b) pastoral leases;
  - (c) Aboriginal communities; and
  - (d) remote areas?

**Hon KIM CHANCE replied:**

I do not know why it is, Mr President, but the one time I get a touch drowsy in question time I receive two questions in my capacity as minister representing the Minister for Energy. It just does not seem fair; does it?

**Hon Simon O'Brien:** You're not the only one asleep on your side - not by a long shot! Just stick two fingers up, that's the normal response, and don't worry about it!

**Hon KIM CHANCE:** Now, now!

Several members interjected.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order, members! Deputy Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the House is about to get to the point of answering the question and I will then give the call to the Leader of the Opposition, who is keen to ask a question.

**Hon KIM CHANCE:** Again, this is an answer that has come in late and is therefore not in duplicate form. However, it is a lengthy and quite technical answer and I table the answer and seek leave for its incorporation in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

[See paper 2713.]

The following material was incorporated -

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(1) From 1 July 2001, when the Remote Area Power Supply Program was introduced, up to 30 April 2007, 544 rebates totalling \$18.48 million were paid under the program. All of these rebates attracted the State contribution.

(2) Please note that the Remote Area Power Supply Program provides rebates for wind and micro-hydro systems as well as photovoltaic systems.

Of the 544 rebates paid under the Remote Area Power Supply Program up to 30 April 2007:

(a) 14 rebates totalling \$290 000 have been paid for grid-connect renewable energy systems installed in towns outside of the Pilbara and South West electricity grids.

(b) 190 rebates totalling \$7.92 million have been paid for renewable energy systems used on pastoral stations.

(c) 64 rebates totalling \$3.50 million have been paid for renewable energy systems serving Aboriginal communities.

(d) The value of rebates paid via region is as follows:

Kimberley \$5 900 000

Pilbara \$3 325 000

Mid West \$2 843 000

Goldfields Esperance \$1 820 000

Gascoyne \$1 682 000

South West \$1 366 000

Wheatbelt \$730 000

Great Southern \$384 000

Peel \$273 000

Perth (Outskirts) \$159 000

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