



## MEDIA RELEASE

# Labor's solar policy sucked into their budget black hole

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**Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy**

Another day, another poorly costed policy from Labor.

Today Labor has committed to spend tens of millions of public money installing solar and battery systems on 1000 community housing properties. In its Economic Directions Statement last year Labor set aside \$4.8 million to install solar and battery systems on only "40-100 low income households". Now that their policy is between 10-25 times larger, where is the upfront allocation of at least \$48 million in Labor's costings to pay for it?

Labor's statement that this would be paid for by selling the excess energy doesn't stack up. The installations will need to be paid for upfront from the budget and at a Feed-in Tariff rate of 8.9 cents a kilowatt hour only a fraction of the upfront costs will be repaid during the forward estimates, leaving another hole of tens of millions in Labor's budget.

Or is Labor, which cut the solar Feed-in Tarriff when last in Government, planning to pay themselves a higher Feed-in Tariff than Tasmanian households who have paid for their own solar systems can access?

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