



Re: Petition for Solar on all New Homes

8th August 2018

A petition has been launched on the UK Parliament website calling for solar panels to be installed on all new build properties in the UK. The [petition](#), which has already attracted nearly 1,500 signatures, was started by the founder of MyGridGB, Dr Andrew Crossland.

In 2017, the UK Government outlined how it planned to [build 300,000 new houses a year](#) across the country yet there was no supporting legislation to install renewable energy on these properties. If just 50% of these houses were installed with solar PV it could increase the amount of solar installed in the UK by nearly 5% per year.

Installing solar panels during construction offers a number of savings on the cost of solar panels including removing the need for new scaffolding, savings on roof tiles if the panels are integrated in the roof, reducing the cost of sale, allowing installers to complete multiple installs across a housing estate and allowing bulk buying of key components. As a result of this, under conservative modelling assumptions, solar PV on new homes has a payback of around [10 years and returns above 10% for most of the country](#) whilst adding around 1% to the house price.

The call is for Parliamentary scrutiny and debate to identify how to best implement the policy but Dr Crossland has proposed a number of mechanisms to ensure that solar installs are managed fairly in the house building process which includes having a national economic model which is used in the planning application to justify the solar investment. This model would include nationally recognised pricing and returns and would allow builders to exclude homes in areas with high shading or low irradiance as well as recommending how to install solar on homes with shared roofs.

The petition would require house builders to install a “meaningful amount” of solar panels. In the case of the UK, the builder would have to justify their decision based on the lifetime economic returns to the homeowner according to the national solar evaluation model.

The economics of solar PV on new homes is strong and as shown by the planning and SAP process it is important to regulate energy saving to ensure that the building industry is equipped to build cost effective, low carbon homes for the future.

The petition runs until the end of October 2018 and requires 100,00 signatures in order to be debated in Parliament.

[ENDS]

MyGridGB is an independent electricity charting and forecasting platform. It proposes a new way of doing energy through mass low carbon electricity generation. It believes in empowering consumers and businesses with the information needed to make informed decisions around their low carbon electricity future.