



7 May 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: Clean Energy Council Limited application for revocation and substitution
A91495 – A91496 - interested party consultation**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the recent revocation and substitution of the Clean Energy Council's "Solar PV Retail Code of Conduct".

The Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA) operates across northern metropolitan region of Melbourne. NAGA's council members include Banyule City Council, Darebin City Council, Hume City Council, Manningham City Council, City of Melbourne, Moreland City Council, Moreland Energy Foundations Limited, Nillumbik Shire Council, City of Whittlesea and the City of Yarra. NAGA formed in 2002 to share information, coordinate emission reduction activities and cooperate on research and the development of innovative projects. NAGA's goal is to achieve significant emissions abatement and energy cost savings by delivering effective programs and leveraging local government, community and business action.

Overall, NAGA supports the CEC substituted voluntary code of conduct for solar photovoltaic (PV) retail businesses (the Code). We believe the revised Code adequately reflects the rapidly changing dynamics of the solar PV market, particularly in its new provisions regarding consumer finance, grid connection procedure and privacy. The new provisions regarding consumer finance make important changes to protect consumers in new solar leasing arrangements/Power Purchase Agreements. We also support the changes to the grid connection approval process, to ensure greater clarification as to when customers are refunded in the event of grid connection not being approved.

NAGA believes that the code has helped to strengthen and encourage best practice across the solar PV industry, and provides greater certainty and confidence of quality of service for consumers. Our member councils rely on the code to engage Approved Solar Retailers (ASRs), and Moreland Energy Foundation, also a member of NAGA, only uses ASRs in its Positive Charge program through the region.

Regards,

Paul Murfitt
Chair, Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action