



# SOLAR INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

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## **Comments / Suggestions by the Solar Industries Association of SL**

We wish to introduce our association as a long standing forum operating for more than a decade focusing on development of Solar Energy in Sri Lanka. The following comments are a summary of suggestions received through our member companies who represents >55% of the Solar PV roof top market. The letter focuses on rooftop Solar PV technologies.

- The present testing of inverter Harmonics is impractical. Measurements taken by multiple instruments give varying results and such tests are to be carried out as per international standards under lab conditions. It’s suggested that inverters shall comply with an internationally accepted IEC scheme. Inverters cannot be tested for IEE1547 standard given in the CEB grid code as its applicable for 60Hz grids typically in USA. CEB too shall have a commitment improve power quality (mainly voltage & feed-in impedance to facilitate Solar PV systems in areas that require attention)
- Proposed budget 2018 provides Tax benefits of 14% reduced from 28% to 14% for RE systems for Power Purchase revenue agreements on or before 10-11-2016 (mainly assisting Utility Scale business). This would not provide benefit to net-accounting or net-plus schemes as they were practically implemented after the said date. It’s fair that this benefit is passed to Net-Plus and Net-Accounting customers to encourage development of RE in Sri Lanka. Therefore It’s suggested that date “10-11-2016” be removed.
- To have a 4<sup>th</sup> Scheme related to battery storage with a special tariff incentive for peak time feed in. This will encourage consumers / potential plant owners to work towards a sustainable grid with higher PV penetration.
- CEB / LECO shall have approved venders for Net-Meters where the Solar PV system owner shall have the option of purchasing tem in case of any shortage in Net-Meters.
- To provide the Solar PV owners with flexibility of changing between PV connected schemes (Eg. Net-Meter to Net Plus) within the first 6 months or a suitable time period.
- To have a Solar PV penetration capability map available with the area CEB office where potential plant owners can assess the potential solar / RE opportunity.
- To encourage CEB to adopt internal and SL standards in contrast to area based technical requirements which in cases can lead into the personal opinion of the Area Engineer which is not the case of majority but needs to be addressed.
- To enable Net-Plus Consumers to have the option of the tariff export value to be deducted from the monthly electricity bill. (Value of Solar PV generation deducted by monthly electricity utility bill)

We thank you for the opportunity provided during the public consultation and please do not hesitate to contact us for any clarifications.

Thanking you,  
Yours Faithfully  
**Solar Industries Association SL**

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