

**Electricity (Feed-in scheme – Residential solar systems) Amendment Bill
Sep 26, 2007**

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond): I applaud this bill. I think the use of solar panels is excellent, but I do have a bit of an issue with the mini wind turbines on government buildings. I think it is a fairly tokenistic approach—in fact a totally tokenistic approach. I wonder why with this bill we have not encouraged the use of small wind turbines, that some people in renewable energy situations use to supplement their solar energy power. I have one constituent who has a small wind turbine, as well as solar energy, and already puts power back into the system. So, I am a bit disappointed that that has not been incorporated into the bill, because people are a bit more adventurous in what they can do, especially when they cannot hook in directly to the powerline. I note that the debate is so much about emissions and climate change, but is the elephant in the room nuclear energy?

Mr Kenyon interjecting:

Mr PEDERICK: I am talking about baseload power here. I think it is great to have targets of 20 per cent for renewables, and I think that is great for low emission technology, but we really do have to look at where we are going with baseload energy in the future. I would certainly like to see geothermal get up. I know there are issues with getting through the hard granite up there at Innamincka and splitting it to access that energy but, hopefully, they will get there in the longer term. It really intrigues me that we have a Premier who is happy to embrace uranium mining and sell it to others overseas for their power generation but he will not even give the people of this state the right to even debate the issue.