



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY  
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Ed Cocks MLA

## Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into ACT's heritage arrangements

**Submission Number: 012**

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**From:** [Graham Mannall](#)  
**To:** [LA Committee - ECCB](#)  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION TO THE INQUIRY INTO HERITAGE ARRANGEMENTS  
**Date:** Friday, 10 March 2023 2:48:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Hi there

I would like to raise the issue about how we are able to become more sustainable city by having solar systems on roofs within areas designated as having heritage value.

FYI - I live in the [REDACTED], in a house that was built in 2000-2001 and is one of the few not deemed to be of heritage value. We have a very large roof at a 30 degree pitch that faces almost directly north and our block is too narrow to have a garage out the back.

I initially sought Heritage approval to install a 13kw solar system on the parts of our roof that are not visible (west and the part of the north facing at the rear part of the house) which was granted but took around 6 months to get advice back.

While this solar system is working reasonable well in the first year of operation we have avoided 16 tonnes of CO2 emissions and generated 16.6MW hours of power. But this does not come close to our annual household CO2 emissions and I want to electrify our house by switching out our gas heating, hot water and cooking so we want to generate more.

I therefore sought approval to install a further 15 solar panels on the north side of the house. Attached FYI is the response I received from the Heritage Council. They would support an additional 6 panels but do not support the installation of 9 on the section of roof closest to the front of our house (even though this does not face the road). Part of their reasoning is that we already have a large system and that this is the most visible and provided suggestions like putting it on the garage or in the yard somewhere which are completely impractical.

There is no point for us to install a 6 panel system as we require a new inverter for the additional panels and the costs far outweigh the benefits.

It seems to me that there needs to be a balance reached between maintaining heritage values and achieving the Territory objectives of becoming truly sustainable. I therefore would recommend that the committee consider this issue. While I think it is reasonable that a house with a specific heritage listing on it (such as our southern neighbours in [REDACTED]) should not be permitted to have solar panels on their roof, for other dwellings in heritage areas they should be permitted to install solar panels on roofs provided it does not directly face the road.

If you want to discuss this further please call me on [REDACTED].

Regards

Graham Mannall