

Please ensure that the design of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation and the funding scheme that it will administer makes provision for the full range of renewable energy alternatives, including large scale solar thermal projects.

Earlier this year, I drove past the solar thermal plant in Andalucia, Spain, and found out more about this plant and about Spain's overall bold initiatives in renewables.

Solar thermal plants are not only a major potential contributor to a low-carbon future, but are also a magnificent iconic symbol of what can be achieved, and would appear to be particularly suitable for Australia.

While the CEFC obviously needs to be careful in its allocation of public monies, it should not be constrained from taking into account important factors such as the motivational and PR value of some striking examples of sustainable high technology. The traditional 'dirty' energy industries have been all too willing to sell the 'boys own' appeal of huge mining machinery, coal loaders and LNG tankers, at the same time as they accept millions of taxpayer dollars in subsidies. Renewables will need to be sold to the public using the same techniques, as they move through the growth path towards a viable commercial industry.

If the CEFC is too captured by 'old thinking' on economics and accounting, we will not be able to move as fast as we need towards a low carbon economy less dependent on large vested interests. CEFC must be able to take account of externalities and the wider public interest in its decision making.

Thank you

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