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## Maximising benefits from local electricity generation

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**From** Andrew Broxholme [REDACTED]  
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**To** Connection Feedback <connection.feedback@ea.govt.nz>

[REDACTED]

I installed a large system (by residential standards) on our lifestyle property which currently has a two bedroom secondary dwelling, a four bedroom home, unoccupied and under renovation after being relocated and a large shed. We put 32 panels on the shed and a 12KW hybrid inverter and have 25 Kw of battery capacity. It was approved by the network for 12 KW but we can only export a maximum of 5KW in any given hour.

When the main dwelling is ready to be occupied we won't have quite the same excess power that we currently generate but as both my wife and I work there is limited ability to consume power during the time when most of it is being generated so it would be nice to be able to export 6, 8 or even up to 10KW of what we can't use after charging our batteries, that is currently just wasted and dissipated as heat.

I had a long discussion by email with Horizon, our network company and they flatly refused my request for the limit to be lifted claiming that we might overload the local transformer but we could do that if we wanted to pay for a new one (\$27,000). They also said if we switched back to three phase we could export more but high daily charges for three phase supply make that also not viable.

Given the rising cost of power we need to encourage local solar generation, especially in high sunshine areas such as the Bay of Plenty, I've roughly worked out that each extra kilowatt increase in the limit would likely increase feed in income by \$100 - \$150 per year and help pay for our system that much quicker.

Sincerely  
A. Broxholme  
Whakatane