



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NATHAN REES SHINES ON SOLAR POWER**

The decision by NSW Premier Nathan Rees to introduce a gross feed-in tariff (GFIT) will create thousands of new jobs and make it easier for NSW families to switch to clean, green energy, Modern Solar chief executive Laurie Mallia said today.

“Mr Rees is to be congratulated for being the first Premier in Australia to commit to introducing a GFIT - a payment to households that have installed a rooftop solar energy unit for every kilowatt of electricity generated by that unit,” Mr Mallia said.

“This will encourage more NSW families to install clean, green solar energy generators because they will be able to pay off their purchase much sooner.

“It will also promote new investment in the green energy sector by Australian businesses and generate thousands more jobs in NSW.

“At Modern Solar, we expect to double our workforce from 200 to about 400 in NSW alone as a result of the introduction of a GFIT.”

Most Australian states have introduced a **net** feed-in tariff, which only pays consumers for the **excess** solar electricity fed back into the main grid.

“Currently, only the ACT has a gross feed-in tariff, but it will soon be joined by NSW after today’s announcement,” Mr Mallia said.

“Only 1% of Australia’s energy comes from solar, while more than 80% still comes from burning coal, which sends massive greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere and contributes to global warming.

“This policy will boost the renewable energy sector in NSW and should be adopted by all Australian states and territories.”

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*Modern Solar is part of The Modern Group - an Australian company employing around 1000 people nationally. Its solar power photovoltaic (PV) systems convert sunlight directly to electricity using solar panels or solar cells mounted on rooftops. The electricity is used to provide power to homes, thus reducing electricity bills, greenhouse gas emissions and consumers' contributions to climate change.*