



May 7, 2015

To the Hon. Bill Shorten MP, Leader of the Opposition

Dear Mr Shorten,

Last December, 142 Christians crowd funded a gift of twelve solar panels for Kirribilli House to show support for a clean energy future. The Australian Solar Council offered to have the panels installed for free.

In March 2015, The Hon. Michael McCormack informed the Common Grace team that the Government had rejected the solar panels gift due to Kirribilli's heritage listing, ongoing costs of cleaning and maintenance, and security concerns.

But experts indicated that the Government had no satisfactory reason not to accept the solar panels. And almost 1000 Christians signed an open letter urging PM Abbott to #acceptthegift and the solar gift was re-presented to the PM's office by local church leaders and the Common Grace team.

Last week, the Government rejected our solar panels for the second time – a symbolic gesture of their failure to invest in renewables.

We want you to be clear that Christians want to see real leadership on renewables. We are looking for a leader who will stand up for a clean energy future.

As the Opposition Leader, will you commit to install our solar panels gift on Kirribilli House if elected, as a powerful signal to the world that Australia's renewables industry is open for business?

Yours sincerely,

Jessica Smith (Common Grace Operations Director), on behalf of 142 Australians who chipped in for the solar panels and 10,000 Christians in the Common Grace movement

jessica@commongrace.org.au