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<http://www.smh.com.au/business/carbon-economy/solar-pain-in-spain--roils-industry-week-in-review-20130807-2relx.html>

### **Solar pain in Spain roils industry: week in review**

A proposal by Spain to make consumers pay for the clean power they generate and use themselves has roiled the industry. The draft bill is currently being reviewed by the country's energy regulator CNE, which accepted feedback until 30 July.

The unprecedented move will make self-generated solar power dearer than electricity from the grid. "The decree is an attack to market freedom that aims to prevent people from competing with established utilities. It's like if they charged you when you turn off electric heaters and use a wood stove," said Jose Donoso, managing director of Spain's solar lobby group UNEF.

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Module prices also rose, with Chinese modules from reputable suppliers commanding \$US0.75/W, and international modules \$US0.86/W. Market participants surveyed expect prices to stabilise from now on.

"These data show that there is strong global demand for the PV products of the largest manufacturers, despite uncertainty and the flow of bad news from the global solar market.

Consolidation continues, but 2013 will still be a year of growth for the industry as a whole," said Jenny Chase, head of solar analysis at Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

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In contrast, India's Suzlon Energy reported a wider quarterly loss of 10.6 billion rupees (\$A230 million) due to costs incurred on scaling back wind-turbine manufacturing at its unit in Germany, and the depreciation of the rupee, making it this year's worst-performing stock in the WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index or NEX, which tracks 98 clean energy companies.

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