Homeowners should consider the benefits of solar PV as energy prices continue to rise says Solar Guide

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LEICESTER, UNITED KINGDOM (RPRN) 06/08/11 — With utility provider Scottish Power yesterday announcing plans to increase **Solar** quidetheir gas and electricity prices by 19% and 10% respectively – a move which is likely to be followed suit by the other big five

energy providers - Solar Guide says now more than ever homeowners should consider the benefits of investing in solar photovoltaic (PV) panels.

While wholesale energy costs continue to rise and the global energy market remains volatile, solar is

reportedly now 90% cheaper than it was in the 1970's. Which means solar is becoming a real cost-saving option for home owners. Reports claim solar PV production has doubled every two years since 2002, making it the world's fastest-growing solar power and energy technology as a whole.

Consisting of cells of one or two layers made from a semi-conducting material like silicon, solar PV panels can help to lower bills by reducing the amount of electricity you need from your energy supplier. Helping your household to save money by generating your own electricity also means you could benefit from the Government's feed-in-tariff; a scheme which would see you get paid for producing your own electricity.

What are the saving benefits of solar PV?

- Saving benefits are twofold as solar panel installation will not only reduce the cost of your bills but it will also rapidly reduce your CO₂ output.
- According to the Energy Saving Trust you can be looking at saving almost a tonne of CO₂ a year from being emitted from your home.
- Energy experts also claim savings of up to £200 annually on electricity bills with a standard 2kWp system being capable of providing around 40% of a household's yearly electricity needs.

David Holmes, founder of Solar Guide, says: "Wholesale prices for gas and electricity have

increased significantly since the end of last year, leading energy providers to yet again raise their prices. With energy costs set to continue to rise in the future, consumers would be wise to look into installing solar PV to reduce the costs of their electricity bills.

"Not only that, thanks to the introduction of the Government's "feed-in tariff", which pays people for generating their own electricity using green technology, you should be able to earn back the capital costs of the installation two or three times over the duration of the tariff."

For more information about solar energy, and to find a solar installer and get a quote, please visit www.solarguide.co.uk

Media Contact Name: Katie Anderson

Media E-mail: katie@holmesmedia.co.uk

Media Web Address: www.solarguide.co.uk

Company Contact Name: Holmes Media (UK) Ltd

Company E-mail: hello@holmesmedia.co.uk

Company Web Address: www.holmesmedia.co.uk

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