STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW INQUIRY INTO THE FEASIBILITY OF UNDERGROUNDING THE TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 23 June 2023

An Upper House committee has commenced an inquiry into the feasibility of undergrounding the transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects.

The Hon Emily Suvaal MLC, Chair of the State Development Committee said: 'This inquiry will allow us to hear community concerns regarding overhead transmission lines and understand the benefits and cost of putting that infrastructure underground.'

The Chair added: 'The committee will also be looking at existing case studies, as well as how undergrounding might affect construction timelines and impact the environment.'

Ms Suvaal concluded: 'Given the billions of dollars being invested in renewing the NSW energy grid, it is important to get this right. The committee looks forward to engaging with local stakeholders and energy experts to examine what will work best for the people of NSW.'

Public submissions are open until **14 July 2023**, with hearings to follow in late July 2023. A final report is due on 31 August 2023.

Further information about the inquiry, including the full terms of reference, is available on the committee's <u>website</u>.

For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Emily Suvaal, on (02) 9230 2731

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