

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE FEASIBILITY OF UNDERGROUNDING THE TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

MEDIA RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12 October 2023

Submissions have opened for a new Select Committee inquiry looking into the feasibility of undergrounding the transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects.

Chair of the committee, Ms Cate Faehrmann said: "This inquiry will further investigate the costs, benefits and risks of underground versus overhead transmission lines, particularly with regard to bushfire and other weather-related events, ongoing environmental impacts and community mental health and welfare."

Ms Faehrmann continued: "The inquiry will examine case studies and other projects to underground transmission lines, in both domestic and international contexts, as well as any impact on delivery timeframes of undergrounding with broad community consensus versus overhead transmission with large scale opposition."

Ms Faehrmann concluded: "Submissions and evidence given to the previous Standing Committee on State Development inquiry into undergrounding transmission infrastructure have been referred to the new Select Committee. Stakeholders who gave evidence to that inquiry do not need to lodge another submission, unless they wish to update or add to their previous evidence."

Public submissions may be lodged via the <u>committee's website</u> until 10 November 2023.

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC, on (02) 9230 3771.