



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **UPCOMING HEARING IN INQUIRY INTO FEASIBILITY OF UNDERGROUNDING THE TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**24 November 2023**

On Monday 27 November, a new Select Committee of the Upper House will hold its first hearing for its inquiry into the feasibility of undergrounding the transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects.

The committee will hear from a number of consultants and organisations involved in renewable energy transmission projects, including DNV, Amplitude Consultants, Stride Renewables, the Community Power Agency, RE-Alliance, the Smart Energy Council and the Clean Energy Investor Group. Local community group, CWO REZist, who oppose the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Transmission Project will also appear, along with representatives from the Energy Corporation of NSW, who are responsible for delivering REZs under the NSW Government Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap.

Ms Faehrmann, Chair of the Committee, said: 'This committee was established after the first inquiry into the issue by the State Development Committee missed the opportunity to provide strong recommendations to Transgrid, the Australian Energy Regulator (AER), Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and the Commonwealth Government that underground transmission lines must be given more due consideration in energy transmission. The rushed nature of the first inquiry did not allow members adequate time to examine the detailed evidence put to it, particularly the conflicting evidence we heard regarding underground transmission lines'.

The Chair added: 'This new committee is particularly interested to ensure that bushfire and climate risk are taken into consideration when decisions are made about the future energy transmission network. We know that many residents living near proposed overhead transmission lines have real concerns about the risks overhead transmission lines pose during bushfires, in particular, and do not feel the first inquiry adequately considered these risks'.

The hearing will take place from 9.00 am to 3.45 pm in the Preston Stanley Room at NSW Parliament. The hearing will be livestreamed on the Parliament [website](#).

Further information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference, is available on the committee's [website](#).

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

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