

Submission

No 13

PROPOSED SALE OF SNOWY HYDRO LIMITED

Organisation:

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Theme:

Summary

I do not support the sale, in part or in full, of Snowy Hydro Limited.

This is nothing but another attempt to cash in public assets to lessen the political pressure of the budget.

I think there are sound arguments for retaining some assets in public ownership. In the case of Snowy Hydro, long term viability and system soundness are paramount. Where as private ownership must be driven by short term goals and must be profitable. This places the decision making process on riskier footing and the need for profitability is bound to drive up prices in the long term.

On the pricing point, it is essential that some significant power generation remains in public ownership or you can be guaranteed that big business will gain control of market prices. This will strongly advantage Australians who own shares against those who do not. This turns an essential service into a means of moving wealth from the poor to the wealthy, not because of work done by those with means but because of ownership.

Mr Andrew Snowden