INQUIRY INTO LEASING OF ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE

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Leasing of Electrical Infrastructure.

There needs to be a financial benefit for the State of NSW from the 99 year lease of the States Poles and Wires.

This needs to be measurable and not just flowery talk.

This also needs to look at all and future income streams from the poles and wires.

This financial benefit should also be weighted against any risk of increased loss of reliability actual or perceived from the lease. NSW has seen the need of an adequate number of trained employees in the recent Newcastle storms. Imagine how much longer people would have waited to get their power reconnected with less employees.

A Risk analysis should also be taken on the percentage ownership of the Nation's Electricity Assets. One owner should be limited in the amount of assets it has control over, even if it is split over different companies.

Many people were confused about the 49% lease. They actually thought that the Government would keep a majority share of the Poles and Wires.

The only way Liberal / National supporters could protest about the lease was to put them second after voting for a minor party or independent. So I am not sure of the mandate for the lease from the election.

There maybe no safeguards for the employees of the Poles and Wires because of the number of employees involved.

So in summary, we can't loose control of this asset without an adequate price from the lease and an adequate income stream from the new assets for the 99 year term of the lease.