

**Submission
No 2**

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

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► **NSW Parliament**

Parliamentary Committee Inquiry
Feasibility of undergrounding the transmission infrastructure for
renewable energy projects

To the Committee,

I am writing this letter to provide my thoughts and views on this proposal. My wife and I have a farm in the Dungowan Valley, East of Tamworth. We have recently been approached by EnergyCo, who intend on building transmission towers across the breath of our property. We purchased the farm 15 years ago, and built our forever home on it 10 years ago, after leaving Sydney. We run an intensive beef production operation, with highly improved pastures, cell grazing, tree corridors ect. We have invested significant time love and money into developing the farm and increasing its value. The proposed overhead transmission lines destroys all this work and will cause massive downgrades in asset value. It will cause safety concerns and be visually polluting.

As part of our house construction we needed to connect to mains power. We chose 10 years ago to trench the power from the road to the house. This was done for 2 main reasons, safety and aesthetics. This decision cost us a significant amount extra, as opposed to having overhead power lines. We were happy with our decision. Now 10 years later, the government via EnergyCo, is choosing the cheaper option which will have a much greater impact. The safety aspects of working around overhead powerlines and increased bushfire risk. Not to mentioned the visual pollution of hosting these massive towers in our pristine valley.

It baffles me why in 2023 we are insisting on using old overhead technology.

Regards

Duncan Gidley-Baird

