

**Submission
No 5**

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

Name: Ms Mary-Jane Betts

Date Received: 12 July 2023

The Hon. Emily Suvaal
Committee Chair,
Underground Transmission Enquiry
NSW Government.

Nanette & Mary-Jane Betts

01 July 2023

Dear Emily,

Please accept our submission as one of the landholders in the Yass region to be severely effected with Humelink 500kv overhead transmission line. We fully support underground to minimise impact.

Overhead transmission lines - 3.1km – eight 75-85m towers, 70m cleared easement, steep, hilly terrain crossing significant ancient heritage landmark and waterway. (REF: YG-010, Betts/ Transgrid) causing: ENVIRONMENTAL & ECOLOGICAL DESTRUCTION.

CULTURAL & EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAMAGES.

HIGH VISUAL IMPACT, AMBIENCE & NOISE IMPACT.

ECO-TOURISM WALKING TRACKS AND ECO –LODGE BUSINESS PLAN, HIGH VISUAL & NOISE IMPACT.

PRODUCTIVE FARMLAND LOSSES.

INCREASED HIGH BUSHFIRE DISASTERS.

INCREASED ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD CROSSING EXISTING 99M LINE (Over high volume livestock work yards, lambing paddocks, sheep camps, Semi-truck loading access under and edge of easement)

HELICOPTER WEED CONTROL

No.1 PRIORITY - LAND HOLDERS COMPROMISE, SUPPORTING UNDERGROUND TRANSMISSION LINES.

No.2 MINOR RE-ALIGNMENT to avoid ancient heritage conservation land, waterway and cultural sites.

Transgrid-Humelink: Environmental, ecological, visual and social impacts:

- **HIGH VISUAL IMPACT, TOWERS & WIRES DOMINATION OF SCENERY, COMPLETELY DESTROYING AESTHETICS of eco-tourism walking tracks.**
- **CULTURAL HERITAGE –NUNNGAWAL WOMENS AREA visual aesthetics.**
- Protection of Remnant grassy box woodland
- Wildlife corridors, hidden spring water sink hole, 2 large Springs feeds waterway
- Wedge-tailed Eagles nest tree removed/ or severely compromised flight and hunting ground on edge of easement
- Clearing multiple 100 -200 year Ancient trees - Multi-hollow Euc. bridgesiana trees, Callitris endlicheri, Euc melliodora, Euc blakelyi
- Largest tree on property, Eucalyptus camaldulensis- River red gum, 9m girth
- Clearing multiple young to mature paddock trees, plus over 300 planted tree lines and understorey corridors.
- Clearing a large number of diverse understorey of plants and grasses in conservation land.
- Damage to stability of Rocky cliffs and rocky outcrops
- Wildlife corridor link to Yass River corridor
- Proposed eco-tourism, BUSH WALKING TRACKS. Derringullen Creek Falls to the Yass River. ECO-LODGE
- Loss of Productive agriculture land and Helicopter weed management.
- HIGH RISK BUSHFIRE DEVASTATION
- Construction damages, roads to each tower site, ongoing maintenance.
- Electro-magnetic fields crossing existing line, over lambing paddocks, camps, sheep yards and semi-truck access.

URGENT GOVERNMENT ATTENTION MANDATORY UNDERGROUND TRANSMISSION LINES OUR ENVIRONMENT MUST COME FIRST. LANDHOLDERS ARE NOT 'HOSTING' TRANSMISSION TOWERS IT IS A FORCED GOVERNMENT COMPULSARY ACQUISITION

Our preferred re-alignment is within the original Transgrid corridor. Topographically far more practical, incurs far less overall environmental destruction and ecological impact. The 'one off' cost to Transgrid, no comparison to the irreversible permanent damage, destruction OF VALUABLE BIODIVERSE CONSERVATION LAND, ENVIRONMENT AND AESTHETICALLY BEAUTIFUL LAND. Please help us to save a valuable ecological and biodiverse habitat from environmental vandalism and destruction.

Yours Sincerely, **Nanette & Mary-Jane Betts, (Ref: YG-010 Transgrid)**



TOP: DERRINGULLEN FALLS.

Viewing Plateau walking track, to left Wedge tailed eagles nest. Potentially standing under 500kv Humelink

FUNDED PROJECTS: FENCING WATERWAY & REVEGETATION - Rivers of Carbon (ARRC) - Bowning Bookham Landcare, Yass Area Network Landcare- Greening Australia-Birdlife Australia, birds on farms project- Wildlife corridor 110 ha Private conservation land. Eco-tourism walking tracks

MIDDLE: High view point, Badgerys walking track. Left, Edge of Grassy Box Woodland. Right, hidden waterfall, deep at base of steep terrain. Potentially standing under 500kv Humelink, **HIGH VISUAL IMPACT** line through to 'Bald Hill' centre photo.

BOTTOM: Ngunnawal Women's Area. Multi-hollowed ancient Euc bridgesiana, top of waterfall. Grassy box woodland (top right)

