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

Name: Mr Jim Morgan

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The Hon. Emily Suvaal,
Committee Chair,
Inquiry - Feasibility of undergrounding the
transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects
Standing Committee on State Development
Parliament House
6 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Hon. Emily Suvaal

I take this opportunity to lodge my submission regarding the feasibility of undergrounding the transmission lines for the Humelink renewable energy power project.

Our property is situated on the eastern side of the Wagga Wagga - Tumbarumba Road, about eight kilometres from Ladysmith. The proposed transmission lines will cross our property from East to West.

I have been advocating for Transgrid to underground the proposed power lines as I fly an aircraft in and out of our property, known as "Tooles Creek", in the course of our farming operations. If the transmission lines are placed above ground, it will prevent me from continuing to fly my aircraft in and out of the property in a safe manner as the lines will be situated across my flight path on approach and departure from my airstrip. Undergrounding the transmission lines would be a far better option as there would not be any impact on my flying movements.

Undergrounding the transmission lines would also allow farming activities to continue as they have in the past, as agricultural machinery would be able to operate in the vicinity without the risk of coming into contact with overhead lines. Also, as the towering transmission line towers affect the amenity of the landscape, having the lines underground would be much better visually for the landscape.

I would urge the committee to consider all aspects when reviewing the feasibility of undergrounding the transmission lines and not just base their conclusion on costs alone.

Thanks again for this opportunity to place a submission.

Regards

Jim Morgan