

Submission  
No 61

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 11 July 2023

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Partially  
Confidential

7 July 2023

**The Hon Emily Suvaal**  
Committee Chair,  
Inquiry – Feasibility of Undergrounding Transmission Infrastructure  
Standing Committee on State Development  
Parliament House, 6 Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY, NSW 2000

**Re: HumeLink – Feasibility of Undergrounding the Transmission Infrastructure (renewables)**

Dear The Hon Emily Suvaal MLC,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to this important inquiry into the feasibility of undergrounding transmission infrastructure in-general, and in-particular for the HumeLink project.

The HumeLink project was something that took us completely by surprise in 2020 when we initially received notification from Transgrid that they were working on a potential infrastructure project and study which was assessing the potential installation of very large transmission lines on our family farm and potentially over the top of our family home.

This was a massive concern of ours for a variety of reasons, including and not limited to the personal, social, agronomic, financial, and environmental impacts and issues this would have on us, our farming operation and our local and wider community. The extremely poor consultation by Transgrid added to our concerns and gave us virtually zero confidence that this company could manage the implementation of this project in our area (including the need for a sound biodiversity plan when entering our family farming operations).

Apart from the obvious aesthetic issues of having these 70-80m towers on or near our family farm and home, some of the other continued concerns we and our neighbours have with overhead lines on rural land are; the higher-risk of bush-fires, the restrictions these create from a farm management perspective (operating under neath the lines), the radiation issues for us and our farm ecosystem, and the continued stress this lengthy process is causing us and others (including the risk of mental health related issues).

We therefore DO NOT support the installation of overhead transmission lines through our local farming area. However, we do appreciate the need for transmission (of renewable energy) and therefore support undergrounding these new transmission lines.

We urge the Standing Committee to recommend that undergrounding is the best and only way forward for transmission in NSW. As we transition to net-zero emissions it is imperative that we install environmentally and socially responsible transmission lines (as has been planned for renewable energy generation).

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Yours Sincerely,