

**Submission
No 81**

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

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As an active landcare member and rural fire service member, I have grave concerns with the proposed overhead transmission lines running through the New England (and elsewhere). I am in strong support of undergrounding transmission for many reasons.

From a fire fighting perspective the additional fire risk from overhead lines and reduced capacity and complications during aerial firefighting (the safest and routine way now) is not worth it. From an environmental perspective, the unnecessary devastating impact on our already stretched ecosystems is not ok. Is protecting koala habitat a government priority or is just talk??

People living in the country didn't move here to look out their back door at huge high voltage lines, many people bought properties not near existing lines, so don't add more! Underground transmission is proven elsewhere so there no excuse!