

**Submission
No 167**

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

Name: Mr Anthony McFadyen

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The Standing Committee on State Development
The Legislative Council
Parliament House
6 Macquarie St
Sydney

Dear Committee Members,

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

I am a resident of the Goulburn Mulwaree Council area and I strongly encourage the placement of the Humelink line to go underground for the following reasons:-

- Undergrounding would protect the infrastructure from severe weather and fire events, thereby eliminating the risk of interruption to power transmission from these events.
 - Undergrounding will not impede, for long periods, the many agricultural operations along the route
 - Undergrounding will have no lasting impact on the landscape
 - Humelink would and should have a “social licence” to place the line underground
 - Undergrounding would reduce fire risk (vis a vis overhead lines) to all areas along the proposed path of Humelink.
 - Placing the lines underground would result in no restriction or hazards to safe firefighting
 - Undergrounding significantly reduces the impact on biodiversity as a much smaller easement is required, and the land above an underground cable can be rejuvenated more quickly after construction
 - The benefits to the environment and communities of undergrounding will last for generations.
 - The decreased value of farms along the route will have a significantly lesser impact on owners if the lines are placed underground.
 - No overhead lines would result in less impediment to agricultural operations, machinery use, irrigation, drones, or aircraft operation.
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There is now growing community pressure for undergrounding new powerlines through any environmental areas and to reduce the adverse socio-economic impacts when traversing high value agricultural land. These regional areas have enormous scenic beauty that should be preserved, and not blighted by the sight of 80m high steel structures carrying electrical cables that should be invisible underground.

Yours faithfully

Anthony L. McFadyen
