

**Submission  
No 169**

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

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Hi,

My name is TONY WEBB and I am 52 years of age living with my partner LAUREN (39 years) and 2 year old son. We reside on the fringe of TRANSGRID'S proposed transmission lines which will ultimately cut through my great grandparents property straight through the middle of it.

Unfortunately ten years ago after the passing of my grandfather the property was sold by my uncle and two aunts. I inherited a quarter of it due to the loss of my father whom was accidentally killed at our local rodeo in 1974. I was 3 and 3 months of age and my little sister was only 8 months old.

Today we live in the same house as did my parents and my grandparents before them. It's a beautiful quiet peaceful place on a creek.

If TRANSGRID build these 80 metre high towers ~~so~~ we will see at least 6 of them and maybe more. Approximately 500 metres from our back door is where they will be situated.

Both my neighbours are not keen on them either and I am in the middle surrounded on three sides. Even though there is no tower on my land one tower will only be around 50 metres from my corner boundary. My boundary backs onto a large hill inaccessible by vehicle and very steep terrain. I'm assuming there will be a lot of large gum trees removed and access roads put in to access vehicles, cranes and trucks.



This requires a massive amount of tree clearing and immense earthworks in this area to just build one tower let alone half a dozen or so.

On our little 115 acre property we run cattle depending on the season for numbers.

We also have about 400 acres further up WEBB'S road and out WEE JASPER road as well. Although not enough these days to make a living I supplement my income through trade work as maintenance Fitter. I'm a FITTER MACHINIST by trade and <sup>have</sup> welding ~~certificates~~ certificates as well. I've been in the construction and manufacturing industry for the last 34 years so I know what I'm talking about when it comes to building things. Although never building a transmission tower you can only imagine the destruction of land and surrounds just to get the footings down. The tower is probably the easiest section.

In summary I could rave on for pages but in this day and age there is only one solution and that is to go UNDERGROUND.

Its long term benefits out way everything that an overhead TRANSMISSION line would be. We all know that there will be challenges just like an overhead line would be but long term we will be much safer for it. The cost of the 2019/2020 bushfires is the perfect example for government to address this issue. After all its not all about us, its our children and their childrens children. We, us this adult generation now need to deliver the best outcome and that is to go UNDERGROUND.

Its this generations responsibility to make it work for our future generations they cannot do that.



Overall we know the cost will be higher but we've got a bit more time now as SNOWY HYDRO has said that 2029 they should be fully operational. That makes it even more positive for UNDERGROUNDING, they can start tomorrow <sup>instead</sup> of TRANSCRID fluffing around for the last 2-3 years misleading communities and wasting money on the project.

UNDERGROUNDING is the only way to go due to the overwhelming risk of bushfires and the safety and reliability of regional communities who are the backbone of our great nation.

We as regional communities, farming communities and the like feed city people. Without us ~~you~~ city people around our country don't eat.

That is why in this day and age we need to care and protect farming land and native vegetation as best possible ~~the~~ because of an ever changing environment. We will continue to get hotter summers, longer droughts and more dangerous bushfires. The records we have seen over the last decade or so will be broken. Its inevitable.

Go UNDERGROUND its the most efficient way of transmission, its safer, it reduces bushfire risk and a better outcome for the environment and overall will be the cheapest way of transmission over a 100 year plus lifespan and beyond.

UNDERGROUNDING IS THE ONLY SOLUTION

LETS MAKE IT HAPPEN, LET DO IT RIGHT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

yours sincerely  
TONY WEBB.