

**Submission
No 127**

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

Name: Mr Paul McMahon

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13th July 2023

Paul McMahon

The Hon Emily Suvaal, MLC, Committee Chair
STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT
Parliament House
6 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Suvaal

INQUIRY – Feasibility of undergrounding the transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects

I operate a grazing business in the Ellerslie area of Adelong, NSW, and the current HumeLink overhead transmission lines route affects me directly by increasing the risk of fires and the fighting of fires. In the recent past I have been greatly affected by the Dunn,s Road Fire during the Black Summer of 19-20.

From a community point of view my concerns are:

- Long term cost / poor value for money to State and people of NSW
- Fire Risk & Fighting Fires
- Diminished regional development (overhead lines make areas less desirable to live)
- Effects on tourism
- Agricultural Impacts
- Environmental Impacts
- Visual Amenity
- Industrialisation of Landscape
- Future Duplication of Lines
- Loss of Value of property or business
- Effects on Income
- Potential Health Problems

I recognise the importance of renewable, clean energy and the need for infrastructure to support its transmission. But we need your help to negotiate better short- and long-term options for local businesses, communities, the environment, and future generations.

Underground electricity transmission is best practice around the world. We urge you to support undergrounding HumeLink so that I, my family, my community and the people of NSW are not casualties as we transition to a low carbon energy future.

Regards

Paul McMahon.