

**Submission
No 230**

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

Name: Mr Warren Lowrey

Date Received: 13 July 2023

Mr Warren Lowrey

The Hon Emily Suvaal, Committee Chair,
Inquiry- Feasibility of undergrounding the transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects.
Standing Committee on State Development
Parliament House
6 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

13th July 13, 2023

Dear The Hon Emily Suvaal MLC,

Re: Feasibility of undergrounding the transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to this important inquiry into the feasibility of undergrounding transmission infrastructure for renewable infrastructure projects.

I would like to point out my main concerns:-

- Outdated transmission tower technology significantly increases the risk of deadly bushfires and makes it harder to fight where helicopters cannot access the property in steep terrain, which is threatening lives & native animals.
- Bushfire risk will increase Climate Change, making towers and lines even more dangerous.
- The cost of bushfires in Australia can run into billions of dollars and will be well excess of the cost associated with undergrounding.
- HumeLink will devastate habitats and wildlife corridors for more than 80 threatened or endangered species of flora & fauna through massive land clearing.
- HumeLink towers will worsen greenhouse gas emissions through large-scale land clearing and increased risk of bushfires.

I urge this committee to recommend undergrounding as the best way forward for renewable energy transmission in NSW to avoid being responsible for more devastating bushfires like the 'Black Summer' blazes.

Do not let a private company railroad these crucial decisions, which can be expected to devastate NSW over the coming years & decades.

Regards

Warren Lowrey