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

Name: Ms Johanne Shepherd

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Partially Confidential

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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

14 July 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 have a degree in environmental studies and this project really worries me. My property lies within the easement zone and my life and my livestock will be greatly affected. I chose to live in a natural environment for health reasons but health is not a concern of this project, nor is safety during summer fire seasons or the protection of the environment. We are being told this is for the environment however no one seems worried about the widespread clearing of natural forest and the destruction of habitat for wildlife. It is, in my opinion an out of date, dinosaur that will wreak havoc if we allow it to go ahead. We must consider going underground if we are to protect our country and its people.

I urge the Standing Committee to recommend that undergrounding is the best way forward for renewable energy transmission in NSW. As we transition to net zero emissions, we need environmentally responsible transmission as well as generation.

Yours sincerely,

Johanne Shepherd