

**Submission
No 259**

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

Name: Keith Bousfield

Date Received: 15 July 2023

Keith Bousfield

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

14th 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 most important inquiry into the feasibility of undergrounding transmission infrastructure for renewable infrastructure projects.

As a dedicated civilian firefighter since 1972 and Professional Firefighter since 1988- (including Divisional Commander from Talbingo Mountain to Denison in the 2003 fires and Crew Leader in the 2019-20 Dunn's Rd Fire) I cannot stress enough the importance of undergrounding major electrical transmission- especially given that the proposed routing of Maragle to Banabee is through The Green Hills State Forest, which caused the jumping of Talbingo, Jounama and Blowering Dams.

Also, due to the magnitude and importance of this issue there should be serious consideration given to extending the submissions on this monumental decision of whether to overhead or underground power transmission.

I strongly urge the Standing Committee to recommend underground power transmission is the best practise wherever possible, for energy transmission in New South Wales, as it is the safest and most culturally sensitive, environmentally responsible and long term cost effective option.

If overhead powerlines are allowed, the visual and cultural pollution to the Tumut Valley will forever alter the significance of this beautiful area of New South Wales to the detriment of all of us and we should be forever judged in this decision to the benefit of NSW whether we judge wrongly or rightly.

I trust that we will come to a just decision in this matter.

Yours Sincerely,

Keith Bousfield