

**Submission
No 293**

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

Name: Marcus and Bree Nalder

Date Received: 8 August 2023

From: Bree & Marcus Nalder
Sent: 6 August 2023 21:18
To: ElectorateOffice Murray
Subject: Objection to Transgrid's transmission lines

Hi Helen,

We object to Transgrid's proposed transmission line which affects our farming land/enterprise/livelihood.

1. We received little notice that our land/community was in the preferred path of the VNI West (connection of Vic/NSW energy grids) transmission lines. We received notification via a letter in the mail with details & a submission required from the landholder within a 2 week turnaround. The original transmission route (through Echuca) gave those landholders plenty of notice (12 months) & time for adequate feedback. We have not been given enough time or respect for that manner for such important property information to be relayed.
2. Transgrid has been meeting with some farmers & telling them/promising one thing & then turning around later & saying the opposite. Lying to farmers about the amount of compensation & required parameters the lines need to be from houses.
3. Transgrid are acting unethically by creating rifts/misinformation between neighbours to create division. Doing this through individual landholder meetings instead of a whole community approach.
4. Transgrid does not have any plan/insurance obligation in terms of fire risk to properties after implementation. This leaves farmers & potentially their neighbours vulnerable to fires with all of the risk & liability being the landholder.
5. Transgrid are rushing through the program without adequate knowledge of the route & cultural significance of the path they are proposing, just to meet a deadline at the cost of taxpayers & the community. It's not too late, Dan Andrews pulled the pin on the Commonwealth games after major expenses had already been incurred. It's no excuse to say everything has been ordered/paid for & must go ahead regardless of the negative outcome for the Nation.
6. Some energy experts believe there are other less expensive methods to achieve renewable energy without depleting our farming sector & taxpayer dollars, these alternatives must be addressed to avoid the potential waste of future food production & government money with disastrous consequences.
7. HUGE implications for our Rice & grain growing region if this proposed VNI West 500kv double-circuit transmission line goes ahead.
8. We live in a major floodplain where access is very often compromised due to high rivers & rainfall which deems majority of the properties within the proposed path inaccessible many times during the year. With this being the situation how will they even get access to be able to carry out the project? 95% of our property is under water in a major flooding event & 50% of our area in normal flooding events.

Finally, this is just another huge blow to a resilient yet traumatised community who have just come off the back of major flooding/production losses, prolonged drought conditions, MDBA mismanagement, water buybacks all in the space of 10 years. How much more can one region endure?

Thanks for your support Helen.
The Nalder Family - Mallan NSW

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Marcus & Bree Nalder