

**Submission  
No 2**

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

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<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees/pages/committee-details.aspx?c=320#tab-members>

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This submission includes the content of the letter of 27 Sept 2023 sent to Ms Faehrmann MLA. The Government has been asked by rural communities likely to be affected by HumeLink above ground installation, to use underground to avoid disruption of agriculture and forestry activities for the next 150 years or more.

The focus of attention is on the immediate cost of installing the HumeLink plan with little or no attention to future, ongoing costs.

As in commerce; there are costs for taking action and equally, there are costs for inaction. The accompanying letter was written on that basis and with the prior knowledge from conversation with HumeLink personal, that the obvious most efficient route through Kosciusko Park was not available on environment legislation grounds, which in all practical purposes has proved to be impractical and the cause of mega bushfires.

The duration of the overall scheme is unknown, anything between fifty and hundreds of years, demands adoption of the most mechanically efficient installation for itself and also for the total rural environment.

Underground installation has more in its favour to be considered as a mechanically efficient option and as such readjustment of the governance systems provides a new stream for finance and the material improvement for the environment.

Short term savings are in the installation costs, but the long term benefit will be in the mechanical saving of power over the life of the project.

It is not difficult to make reparations for use of a part only of a moribund national park that follows on to materially benefit all parks, Crown forestry land and neighbours in rural areas.

The problems delaying Snowy 2.0 do not affect the power generation from wind and solar in South Australia having to be distributed to NSW and Vic by not only the shortest route but also underground to prevent harm to agriculture and forestry.

From the above and letter with attachments, undergrounding transmission of power has the most to offer and gain because by replacing those governance systems so many economic and environmental problems can be resolved to the satisfaction of both city and country residents.

Jim Beale