

**Supplementary  
Submission  
No 76b**

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

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To the Select Committee on undergrounding HumeLink 500KV transmission line whilst I have raised the known added risk of fire from overhead transmission lines previously where I live the HumeLink transmission line will parallel but be located north of sections of Burringjuck Dam.

The area south of the proposed 500KV transmission line becomes very steep and rugged as this country forms the original run-off of galleys and creeks to what where once the Yass and Murrumbidgee River system.

Should HumeLink 500KV transmission line be given the green light overhead due to the fact that the carbon content of smoke is a known conductor of electricity and that TransGrid seem hesitant to de-energise HumeLink should it be approved overhead then there's a real issue of flashover to ground and or personnel manning fire suppression appliances (fire trucks-NSW RFS Category 1 tankers aren't or about 3 metres tall plus personnel?)

In advising the Select Committee on undergrounding HumeLink the Burringjuck village and the Burringjuck State Park camping area and multiple homes could become indefensible under catastrophic fire conditions, due to volunteer manned NSW RFS Fire Appliances inability to pass safely under this transmission line south in a fire situation?

Aerial fire control will also be negated due to pilots lack of vision of structures and conductors held 70 plus metres above ground level?

As an elected deputy captain of the Bowring RFS Brigade no with over 50 years local fire fighting experience and with a recorded frequency of a fire approximately every 7 years, I would not ask volunteers to pass under a powerline of this capacity in a fire situation?

Thus undergrounding HumeLink 500KV transmission line will 100% enhance the ability to control a fire between HumeLink and Burringjuck Dam?

So for the need for safer fire control undergrounding HumeLink 500KV transmission is the only option?

Best regards John McGrath