

**Submission  
No 80**

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

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Dear Committee,

I object on strong technical grounds to all of the totally unnecessary Interconnector Transmission Lines planned, including:- Project Energy Connect, VNI West & Humelink - whether above or underground, as it is not and never can provide a reliable supply of renewable energy.

The capacity of Solar & Wind is nowhere near enough and never will be on current technical progress reports.

Secondly an unreliable grid based on solar and wind can never guarantee recharge when needed.

Finally the cost of additional grid generation to accommodate storage recharge AND normal grid load is outrageous!

In a word, no storage is viable as grid unreliability support, it is useful sometimes as peak lopping only.

The other untenable unknown is what to do when the short term, toxic Solar, Wind & Battery Infrastructure has to be replaced? No one has addressed the monumental environmental problems!

Real overall Transition/Transmission costs have deliberately not been included by TransGrid, the Developers, DPE, EnergyCo & AEMO etc.

This must be accurately rectified to include the following:

- The cost of mining all raw materials;
- Insurance (there will be a cost) that all mining and processing is done WITHOUT the use of slave and child labour;
- The cost of shipping of raw materials to the point of manufacture;
- The cost of manufacture;
- The cost of shipping the finished articles to the installation site;
- The cost of site and access preparation;
- The cost of recovery of site damage during construction;
- The cost of installation and commissioning;
- The cost of maintenance. There are some HUGE costs currently incurred on repair of off-shore power cables connecting off-shore wind farms to shore facilities;
- The cost of end-of-life disposal of solar and wind system components. These have a much shorter operational life than fossil fuel station;
- The cost of post disposal land recovery treatment (these items are toxic);
- The total cost of additional transmission lines to connect solar and wind systems to the grid (note these are not needed if current generators sites remain active.

If all these **actual costs** were added to the presently published cost of solar and wind systems they would then be operating on the same basis as other systems, instead of a fictitious cost structure designed to convince the public that these systems are cheap. This in real terms is arrant nonsense and should be exposed.

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