

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY  
ZONES (REZ) ON RURAL AND REGIONAL  
COMMUNITIES AND INDUSTRIES IN NEW SOUTH  
WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 30 January 2025

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Partially  
Confidential

The Hon. Mark Banasiak, MLC

It is with great concern that I write this email. My concern is for our property and the property of many other farmers in our district and other districts as well.

There were plans for two transmissions lines to go through our district which our property and our son's property that join each other were in line of the transmission line. These lines might not look low but machinery today is very high when performing the jobs they are required to do. Our harvester when going over contour banks with a grain unloading auger would have a close call to touching the lines, our chaser bin for collecting the grain from the harvester has an auger that when extended to do the job reaches very high. We tow mobile grain augers between paddock, the overall length of the augers is 18.5 metres. Our tip truck would be working under these lines carting grain and rock when clearing the paddock of rocks. Our main planting machinery is 10 metres wide and when folded up is 3.5 metres high and is towed by a 250 hp tractor. I would be very worried about the damage that would happen if a collision with one of these towers were to occur and the life that would be put in danger.

We are farmers that train young people to drive this machinery and at present we have open paddocks that would become very dangerous to train someone in if we had these transmission line going through them.

Our machinery operates with GPS steering so what would happen if the operator didn't switch the GPS Steering off in time? Our self-propelled Boom Spray is also GPS controlled, it is a machine that is 36 metres wide, the judgement that is needed to pass these towers would be very difficult to judge. This Boom Spray when folding up is 12 metres high, that is well above the limit that we were told that could be operated near these towers. If this machine was to touch these transmission lines there would be an explosion killing the operator, burning the machine and starting a fire. I have been in the Collaroy Rural fire Brigade for 54 years and have dealt with many fires in our area over the years, a large number of these fires have been started by lightning strikes which we have been told having these tower and line increase the risk of lightning strike. As fire fighters we have been warned not to put water on the fires under these transmission lines. The transmission line would run in an east/west direction creating a massive fire front through our cropping properties.

The risk to livestock would be high with evidence around showing because of the extra lightning strikes near the lines livestock are dying under the transmission lines from the strikes.

The weed burden around the towers in our crops would be a problem as they could end up becoming resistant to our chemical applications.

We have been told our farms would have 20 towers on them and this would make our farms unsustainable.

We make hay and bale straw from our crops. Loading these bales on to the truck would be very dangerous as the front-end loader on the tractor reaches metres high, to a level beyond that safe working height under these power lines.

I reiterate that we train young people on these machines and would have great difficulty to prevent accident from happening.

I believe that having these transmission lines running through highly productive cropping areas is extremely dangerous and should not be allowed to go ahead.

(Farmer – )