

Dear AER

I need to voice my opposition, as an Australian citizen, to the premature approval of the HumeLink project. I feel it is vital that the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) enforce regulatory compliance consistently and fairly while prioritizing consumer protection over corporate interests.

TransGrid's current application does not meet the requirements set out in the National Electricity Rules, therefore it should be re-submitted in full compliance with all regulatory standards. The 2024 Integrated System Plan provided inaccurately models the approved project timetable this relies heavily on achieving an unrealistic renewable energy target, therefore making the current investment in HumeLink premature and risky.

A decision made without completing due diligence on the project has potential to destroy Australian rural farms, lifestyles, and our biodiverse landscapes. I draw you attention to the latest report attached by Adj Professor Stephen Wilson.

Furthermore, TransGrid's mistakes, such as prematurely locking in contractors, should not result in financial penalties being passed on to consumers. The AER must hold TransGrid accountable for its errors and ensure that shareholders bear the financial consequences.

I compel the AER to reject the premature approval of the HumeLink project to protect consumers from unnecessary costs and uphold the integrity of the energy regulatory framework. Additionally, the fast-track renewable energy transition may have negative impacts on wildlife and the environment and lacks social license.

As a final note I sincerely wish that as a regulator you take seriously the community concerns expressed regarding the project, I only ask they you have full understanding and are not looking to tick the box to get projects approved before completing the due diligence this project requires, the impact is far too great

Please accept my concerns and I would appreciate a response to the submission.

Kind Regards

Juanita Allan