

Mary-Jane and Nanette Betts

15 July 2024

**AER open to Comments on Feedback Loop,**

*My understanding, the role of the AER–*

**The AER is to ensure that the rules and regulations are adhered to, by complying ethical standards and means within the law.**

**OBJECTIONS TO TRANSGRID -HUMELINK PROJECT and SNOWY 2.0**

-In breach of requirements ISP and NER, submitted on a draft, changes to critical information

- *Blindsiding the public and taxpayer monies on overseas invested guaranteed return profits*

- *Humelink Transmission line overall holistic environmental cost, and net benefits. Panic of pushing infrastructure contractors, and material orders before functional operational power source is commissioned and project not yet meeting approval requirements.*

- *Transmission oversupply, as renewable projects in classified renewable zones advance towards the 2030 target placing Snowy 2.0 and Humelink delayed completion well behind the net benefits to predicted outlaid construction costs.*

- *Scale of the project delays and inefficiency delivering power over long distances will not meet the 2030 target.*

- *False claims for cheaper renewable energy for the consumer.*

- *Transmission line justification, misleading survey reports through greenfield landholders.*

**- MISLEADING REPORTING, COSTS AND BENEFITS FOR UNDERGROUNDING OPTION**

As an electricity consumer, prices are increasing at a rapid rate, with no end in sight. The talk of cheap renewables equals cheap energy for the consumer, is the biggest lie dished out to the public and consumer. Lack of transparency of the non-disclosed government underwritten guarantees for returns for overseas investment on the infrastructure of transmission lines should be public information.

For households, small business and big business there is no-good long-term forecast for sustaining productivity and profitable business opportunities on the rising energy costs.

The ill-conceived Snowy 2.0 has been a nightmare project from the beginning, one of the biggest environmentally destructive projects not been held to account in cost, and not inclusive with the cost of transmission projects are misleading the public and taxpayers. EPA standards have not been met for the long-term permanent damage.

Transgrid's Humelink ill prepared lodged drafts of technical planning continually changing, critical information and disregard of the rules and regulations of NER, AER and AEMO regulators demonstrates a high level of uncertainty and incompetence.

Wind and Solar may be the cheapest energy to harvest for profit for the underwritten guaranties of returns for the overseas companies invested infrastructure, but there is no cheap energy for

the end consumer. Snowy 2.0 is a minor contributor. What are the calculated quantities of non-recyclable waste materials of turbine blades and solar panels at end of life in the next 20 years? Where will the waste be buried? Will all the infrastructure be rebuilt to renew another short life cycle? or left to rot in the landscape?

The impact of carbon footprints created from these enormous and environmentally unfriendly projects covering our vast and rugged landscape cannot be justified. Destroying freehold land of productive agricultural land and valued biodiversity environments is hypocritical of the EPA, DPIE and DCCEE laws in place to protect. Humelink carbon footprint cannot be recovered.

**Ignoring the long-term benefits of undergrounding Transmission lines** is biased, in favour of overseas companies wanting guaranteed quick returns on cheap infrastructure, no long-term recognition of productive agricultural lands, biodiversity and protection of the annually increasing number of endangered species. There is no safeguarding the landscape from transmission and turbine bush fire disasters. We are gifting our future generations a horrendous mess to clean-up.

The consumer knows little of the impending cost of the infrastructure added to our bills.

Humelink is a pushed project for Snowy 2.0, which realistically may not be completed by 2029. Why is Transgrid's Humelink urgent push of bending the rules and skipping critical details to start construction for early 2025?

A question of how our public funded, taxpayers' money could be better spent.

Personally, Transgrid's stonewalling and disrespect, bullying into signing agreements without critical information is unacceptable, forcing a construction agenda before project approval is not correct protocol. In the end, we lose rights over our land we have held, improved and protected in the family for over 150 years.

We have been arguing with Transgrid for four years for a minor re-alignment moving the line 500m to the north of the 3km 'greenfield' 70m easement to avoid multiple complexities and issues, an achievable and holistic cost-effective solution avoiding property infrastructure, saving conservation biodiversity land, impact on the ecology **and most importantly avoiding a Culturally Sensitive Heritage Site, registered as the Derringullen Women's Area, Ngunnawal Country.**

The deliberate disrespect by Transgrid fully admitting that they are prepared to breach the Derringullen Women's Area with construction contractors – **men - on site**, building a new road for heavy machinery and passing through this site and waterway to the end of the Transmission lines life is unacceptable.

This is a shameful breach by Transgrid not following their set criteria and rules.

Yours sincerely

Mary-Jane, and  
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