

# NREN NATIONAL RATIONAL ENERGY NETWORK

## NATIONAL RATIONAL ENERGY NETWORK INCORPORATED

**To protect and advance public welfare and the natural environment by opposing Commonwealth, State or Territory Law, or Corporate actions, that impose counterproductive energy policies and costs on all citizens.**

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<https://www.nren.com.au/>**

Dear Sir/Madam,

1. Due to the many submission we, the affected citizens, and supposedly beneficiaries, of all these projects, must make to defend our interests, I will use a biref format.
2. Abide by the Law: We, as affected citizens, expect the Government, all Regulatory agencies and third party contractors, to abide by the Legislation as drafted without exception. Selective application, shortcuts, and exemptions are not appropriate. If these agencies break or twist the rules it sets a bad example for Corporates and individuals, and leads to mistrust in the community, and eventually anarchy where no one follows the rules unless under direct threat of prosecution.
3. Contingent Project Application: Transgrid must submit a new Contingent Project Application that meets the current requirements.
4. Snowy Hydro 2: The delays in Snowy Hydro 2 and many other VRE projects means it is highly unlikely Australia will meet the arbitrary 82% renewables (sic) by 2030 target. This scuttles any acknowledged justification for rushing the Humelink transmission through. Humelink can wait until Snowy 2 has a more certain completion date.
5. The irrational desire to push Humelink ahead at this time indicates some other, unstated, motive. We suspect the additional object is completing the links to the NSW South West REZ through to South Australia, to enable the massive wind and solar projects in those areas to be built and connected. Snowy 2 is being used as a Trojan Horse. A similar thing occurred in NSW when a gas peaking plant was approved for Wellington and a 330kv line built from Wollar to the area around 2010. The gas plant was never built, but Bodangara wind and massive solar was built instead in the area.

5. Cost: The massive cost to the Australian consumer and citizen of the Humelink, and other projects, should mean it is not built unless absolutely needed, and until it is needed. All expenses and borrowings are underwritten by us, the citizen, and our consideration is paramount, ahead of any corporate profit-making interests or misinformed ideological desire.

6. NEL: I remind AEMO and the AER of the Objects of the NEL:

**7 National electricity objective:**

*The objective of this Law is to promote efficient investment in, and efficient operation and use of, electricity services for the long-term interests of consumers of electricity with respect to-*

- (a) price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of electricity; and*
- (b) the reliability, safety and security of the national electricity system; and*
- (c) **the achievement of targets set by a participating jurisdiction-***
  - (i) **for reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions; or***
  - (ii) **that are likely to contribute to reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.***

Objective (c) was added only in September 2023. No objective has priority over the others, which was again emphasised in the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the South Australian Parliament. One can argue the historical objectives, (a) and (b), should have some priority, whereas it appears (c) is favoured in practice. Nowhere does it state 'for the benefit of corporate shareholders and make life easy for Transgrid'.

7. The public exposure and open knowledge of the flawed and self-serving 2024 GENCOST and ISP assumptions makes arguing or assuming VRE will meet the legally required preamble of Clause 7, or objectives (a) and (b), extremely unlikely. In fact, it will be technically and financially impossible. Attaining Objective (c) itself is extremely doubtful using these grossly inefficient generators to produce bulk power, given the whole-of-life sunk energy and materials used through their relatively short useful life. The extreme overbuild of VRE and enabling transmission network must also be considered fully.

6. Given the intention of a Coalition Government to go the nuclear route, all VRE transition projects should be put on hold until after the upcoming Federal election. Unfortunately, it appears rushing projects through without proper scrutiny and oversight, and ignoring community concerns, is happening instead.

Yours sincerely,

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