

Dear Sir/Madam,

Whilst I am impacted by Humelink, and want it placed underground in its entirety, I am also an electricity consumer.

I don't want electricity bills that are already through the roof to get any higher. I want the regulator to protect me from unnecessary electricity increases.

We have been waiting for a decision on undergrounding Humelink, however TransGrid have ramped up efforts to compulsorily acquire land for a project that is not required until Snowy 2.0 is operational, and Snowy may never be accomplished. TransGrid are hurrying so that the government may decide things have gone too far & approve it as an overhead transmission line, which will render land all along its corridor as undefendable in the advent of bushfire. TransGrid needs to have Humelink as an overhead line so that the company will make additional profits in the future for maintenance of the line. Not much maintenance costs in underground.

We expect AER to enforce the letter of the law consistently & force TransGrid to redo the RIT process and consider the good of the nation over their shareholders. Consumers are not considered by TransGrid, only their profit margin.

**"The duty of the AER is to ensure that the Rules have been complied with both in the spirit and in the letter of the law." - James Glissan AM
ESM KC**

We ask that the above comment be adhered to by the AER & TransGrid.

TransGrid should re-submit the Contingent Project Application to match the one that AER are currently assessing.

Humelink has now reached a cost that negates any benefits and should be cancelled, along with Snowy 2.0. The project at the very least should be held over until it is certain that Snowy 2.0 will work. Arguments that the costs will keep increasing don't hold water if the project fails to supply enough useable energy. Wind & Solar energy cannot supply energy when the wind doesn't blow & the sun doesn't shine and Snowy 2.0 will not supply energy if the dams don't have enough water in them. Australia experiences dry times & droughts so at those times Snowy will generate very little power.

The benefits of Humelink are overstated to benefit the shareholders of TransGrid. If it was a great project Snowy Hydro would be happy to pay for it. Why should the consumer pay for something that has no guarantee that it will work?

TransGrid have changed the route and the make-up of Humelink multiple times. If the project was the very best way to do it there would have been a plan made & stuck to it.

Yours Faithfully

Ross Smith