

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

As an electricity consumer I strongly oppose the early approval of the Humelink approval. It has been brought to your attention that the national electricity rules have not been followed and have in fact been used to favour Transgrid at the expense of the consumers. In addition to the number of times various reports such as those from AEMO, etc have been rewritten to rectify inaccuracies now AER not following the rules further undermines the credibility of not only themselves but also the whole process - there has been a display of one sided interpretations and outcomes which have been called out but allowed to continue. Follow the rules as you should be doing and take some pride in the work you are doing and do it fairly.

Transgrid's current application does not comply with the rules as it fails to align with the most recent ISP because of AEMO's failure to comply with the mandated consultation process. Therefore Transgrid must be required to resubmit a compliant application for consideration.

Make applicants comply with the rules to ensure public confidence in the process is maintained. Media coverage of the 2024 ISP indicates that the plan has not modelled the project timetable correctly. Bringing the project forward as a result of private interest influence should not be allowed to occur for the benefit of the private interests. Once again renewable energy targets and AEMO's modelling have been questioned and are proving to be misleading by the use of sunk costs and other omissions in the modelling and reports which if presented more accurately would expose the Humelink project to be a potentially risky proposition. Robust due diligence on this project is a must and that should be a given.

There is also the matter of Transgrid promoting their case based on decisions they have made which have been made in error and that are costing them financially.

This is not a matter that AER should be taking into consideration - they should be dealing with applicants at arms length as an independent regulator and breaking rules to fast track the application is unacceptable.

For the above reasons I strongly object to the proposal being approved via a non conforming application and certainly not being fast tracked by 3 years in its current form.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Trevor Turner