

14 March 2003

Mr Sebastian Roberts
Acting General Manager
Regulatory Affairs – Electricity
ACCC
PO Box 1199
Dickson ACT 2602

Dear Sir,

Re: Submission to application by Murraylink for regulated status – extended to 14/3/03

With regard to this application, amongst other issues, Gecko – Gold Coast & Hinterland Environment Council is concerned that the arguments in favour of undergrounding power lines have not been fully assessed or cost analysed in regards to the environment, human health and the impacts on the integrity of Nerang State Forest.

If providers are required to provide electricity at the lowest cost to electricity consumers while meeting reliability requirements and environmental standards and requirements, then the issue of undergrounded power should be fully investigated and assessed properly with a cost benefit analysis.

We understand that the EIS does not address this and that it relies upon inflated costings of undergrounding due to information from 1988. How can the right decision be made without up to date information which analyses the true costs of both overhead and underground power lines?

We appreciate any further investigation and information you might mandate.

Yours faithfully,

Sheila Davis
President

Regards,

Sheila

Sheila Davis
MA Special Education, Columbia University
Gold Coast Environmental Citizen of the Year - 2001

President

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