

Coomera Valley & Hinterland Residents' Association
PO Box 747
OXENFORD 4210

13 March 2003

Dear Mr Sebastian:

RE: Application for Murray Link for regulated status -- Greenbank to Molendinar Powerlink (high tensile powerline proposal), Queensland

We note that Powerlink states in its proposal that the "concept of tactical undergrounding would change our proposal".

We submit that there is a drastic need for a change of approach and we are now placing ourselves on official record as stating same.

Mr. Geoff Benson, head of our Powerline subcommittee, will provide evidence which shows Powerlink costings were apparently much higher for undergrounding than those which can be reasonably shown by other reputable sources. Please note this. The matter will not rest here.

It is incumbent upon energy providers who espouse the policy of prudent avoidance to give detailed and absolutely accurate cost analysis of undergrounding. Undergrounding, the burying of lines in triangular formation, is (according to informed sources) the most significant & effective way to substantially reduce emissions when transmitting electricity.

The Greenbank to Molendinar powerline, with its 17-storey towers, was given a costing by external consultants which differed substantially from Powerlink's own costing.

The Coomera Valley Hinterland Residents' Association will not give up its brief to ensure provision of modern best practice: the undergrounding of powerlines. We are now on record as asserting that (a) while a consultant's report exists seriously & significantly disputing Powerlink's figures and (b) whilst concerns regarding impact of emissions on health remain undefended, so prudent avoidance is best policy.

ACCC must ensure Powerlink does not proceed until a thorough & proper examination is made of the undergrounding alternative.

Sally Spain
President.