

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 30 September 2023 11:53 PM
To: Community Engagement Review
Subject: Submission to the Community Engagement Review

To Australian Government's Community Engagement Inquiry

Every part of nature that we love and depend on suffers from delays to a transition to renewables. We need a healthy nature to survive and thrive ourselves.

Burning coal and gas is causing the Murray Darling Basin's mighty rivers to dry up, the Great Barrier Reef to bleach and die, and communities to suffer in furnace-like cities and towns and our country to suffer natural disasters.

With no realistic and proactive plan to increase renewable energy and decrease fossil fuel we will see even more natural disasters. I dread this summer that awaits us and the predicted El Niño conditions that will supercharge climate damage. Agricultural land will dry up and affect less food availability for people with increased prices. Nature and wildlife will also suffer with less water, droughts and bushfires.

We must as a nation plan with huge investments and projects to electrify Australia with clean energy now. We are in a race, which we are losing, because of our investment in fossil fuel to rapidly reduce emissions and keep global warming within 1.5 degrees. We were told not to invest in more fossil fuel projects. Disappointing is the fact that 4 new or expanded fossil fuel projects have already been approved so far this year by the minister for environment.

Not building renewable energy infrastructure will mean more coal and gas power and more emissions and more climate damage. And this is what we are seeing!

We MUST plan and build renewable energy infrastructure. Rooftop solar can do a lot more, but we'll need large scale renewables too. As we electrify everything - including vehicles, heating, homes and businesses - we'll need twice as much power as we need today, and that power must be renewable! The potential benefits are huge. Lower power prices, local jobs and economic development, community enhancement and renewal, cleaner air and more robust ecosystems. A healthier climate will mean a healthy environment and healthier people.

First Nations' right to self-determination must be central to the transition. First Nations people must be active agents in the energy transition, including being supported to develop their own clean energy infrastructure, develop local energy systems in remote communities, and be engaged and remunerated for infrastructure that crosses their lands and waters.

Farmers along planned routes should receive payments for hosting the infrastructure that are fair and enable all farms to continue to be productive through dual land use design.

Poorly sited and planned renewable energy and transmission development will have impacts on land and nature, so we must take measures to avoid and minimise these as much as possible.

The biggest threat to nature is catastrophic climate change, and therefore decarbonisation of our energy system in a sustainable way is the most pressing effort to protect biodiversity.

To do this, we need a strong social license for the required infrastructure development.

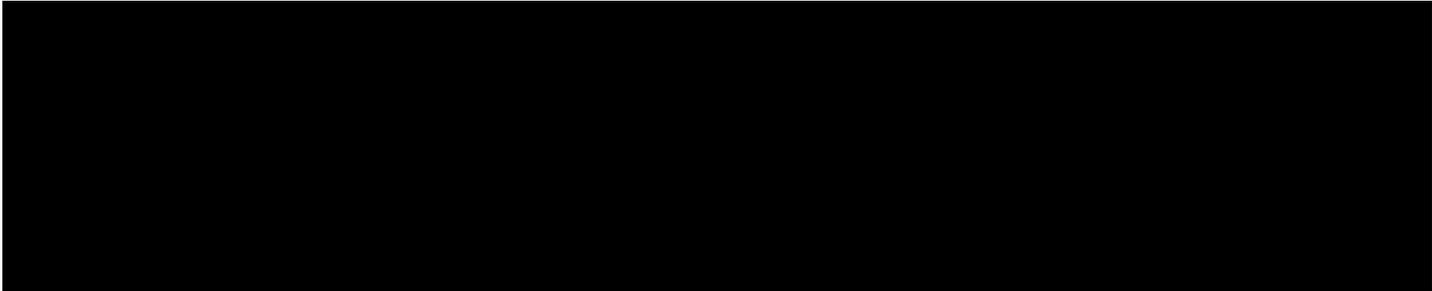
We are already well behind where we need to be after ten years of inaction at a federal level. We are way behind other countries in building the transmission and renewable energy we need to stop burning coal and gas. We must get our priorities right and it starts with the government prioritising renewables over fossil fuel investment. This one issue alone was why Labor won the last election. The community will not accept greenwashing

by fossil fuel industries that boast supposed clean fossil fuel. Fossil fuel will always increase carbon emissions and will always damage our air and the environment.

I strongly urge all decision makers to have the courage to back the URGENT transition we desperately all need to renewable energy, while raising the bar on community engagement. There is no more time left for government procrastination. This is the biggest issue we face today to ensure that we all have a future.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]



To learn more about Do Gooder visit

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dogooder.co%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cce review%40dcceew.gov.au%7C3e704662f305495ee93f08dbc1bc8966%7C2be67eb7400c4b3fa5a11258c0da0696%7C0%7C0%7C638316787735345846%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljo iMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jqM9mXx71b7hzXUyLJuaAScxUpB5UUWJgli%2BOebNmF8%3D&reserved=0>

To learn more about web protocol RFC 3834 visit:

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftools.ietf.org%2Fhtml%2Frfc3834&data=05%7C01%7Cce review%40dcceew.gov.au%7C3e704662f305495ee93f08dbc1bc8966%7C2be67eb7400c4b3fa5a11258c0 da0696%7C0%7C0%7C638316787735345846%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljo iMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SeD0EANz2JDOtmLF%2FGP8C7dIWjcM6zkA%2BdkT3sh9Rmw%3D&reserved=0>