

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 2 October 2023 9:53 PM
To: Community Engagement Review
Subject: Submission to the Community Engagement Review

Dear Community Engagement Inquiry,

Renewable energy production has the potential to provide cheap energy for all Australians which could even encourage energy-expensive industries to invest and expand in Australia. This will obviously directly benefit all Australians but it also has the potential to increase the economy through increased investment from large companies.

The real economic benefit of renewable energy is that it is produced locally and can provide local needs at much more affordable prices than fossil fuels can, and at more appropriate scales for each energy demand. This will allow the quality of life of everyday Australians to improve, especially in rural areas and regions with less infrastructure. The production of renewable energy and the research and development of the technologies can (and should be) Australian owned and led, leading to the expansion of our international value. With suitable investment in the infrastructure and technologies we could become a green energy exporter and a world leader in renewable technology, further advancing our economy whilst also helping us reach our international responsibilities with regard to climate change and greenhouse gas emissions. Renewable energy production may also become a valuable income source for landowners which may otherwise suffer economic ruin caused by climate change and extreme climatic events, so this should also be considered as a significant societal benefit for millions of Australians.

Even if the huge economic potential of renewable energy production is insufficient to motivate governmental investment and engagement, the environmental benefits are very clear. Australia is failing to deliver any climatic improvements and we are far from reaching the necessary goals to reduce climate catastrophe. The situation is in fact so poor that we are an international laughing stock for the continued investment in fossil fuels and overall inaction to address climate change. As such, a further reason to improve the development of renewable energy in Australia is to try to improve our political and global image. It is currently embarrassing to admit to being Australian in regards to the environment and unfolding climate crisis.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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