

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 5 October 2023 8:02 PM
To: Community Engagement Review
Subject: Submission to the Community Engagement Review

Dear MR/Ms

I have written this submission for consideration by the Community Engagement Review. As a person who has been passionate about the risk of climate change for many years I fully appreciate the need for solar, wind and batteries to be quickly and swiftly deployed to speed the decarbonisation of industry globally.

In the case of Australia I think a few things need particular consideration.

Firstly the building out of the electricity network needs to be properly specified and if necessary subsidised by the Federal government. The wholesale building of additional above ground transmission lines will generate considerable resistance from the farming community (most of whom actually support non fossil power) and put rural communities at increased fire risk. Their opposition will likely drag out and deployment by years.

Priority should be placed upon putting the lines underground.

Secondly it is clear that better standards for electric bikes and scooters are required. Otherwise the recent spate of fires from such device will increase and the end result will be a decrease the pace of phasing out of GCE's . Nobody will want an electric car in their garage if they associate batteries with bombs.

Thirdly not enough is being done to encourage the development of micro grids that connect suburbs that have high solar penetration to a local community scale battery. The normal comment about this is that it is an expensive option. But so are all the rest and I suspect the costing reflects input from existing major power utilities. None of whom would be enthusiastic as it threatens monopoly and oligopoly pricing.

Micro grids would also be an excellent way of increasing the countries resilience to a changing climate and as a potential enemy threat.

Finally I would caution the enthusiastic pursuit of off shore wind turbines in what is for all intents and purposes the Southern Ocean. This is a very different environment to the North Sea and will become even more so as the Antarctic melts. I think any offshore Southern Ocean proposals would need very careful risk analysis.

Kindest Regards

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]

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