

[REDACTED]

From:

Sent:

[REDACTED]
Thursday, 28 September 2023 7:40 PM

To:

Community Engagement Review

Subject:

Submission to the Community Engagement Review

I am writing to you to express my deep concern about the pressing issue of climate change and the urgent need for a just transition to renewable energy sources in Australia.

As we are all well aware, the climate crisis is an unprecedented challenge that requires immediate and comprehensive action. Australia, like the rest of the world, is at a critical juncture in the fight against climate change. The transition to renewable energy is not just a necessity; it is an ethical responsibility to future generations and a commitment to a sustainable and prosperous future for our country.

I would like to draw your attention to the Australian Government's Community Engagement Inquiry and urge you to support and prioritize genuine community engagement in the development of wind, solar, and transmission projects. Communities and First Nations must have a meaningful say in shaping this transition to ensure that the benefits are shared equitably among all stakeholders and that the environment is protected for future generations.

Here are some key points I believe are crucial for your consideration:

1. It is imperative that we rapidly expand our renewable energy infrastructure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat the climate crisis. Renewable energy projects are a cornerstone of climate action and must be developed with the utmost care and community involvement.
2. The transition to renewables provides an opportunity not only to combat climate change but also to create jobs, stimulate local economies, and improve public health. By involving communities in decision-making, we can ensure that these benefits are distributed fairly and that no one is left behind.
3. It is essential that governments and companies involved in renewable energy projects commit to transparent, accountable, and inclusive processes that prioritize the interests and concerns of local communities and First Nations. This includes fair compensation, environmental protections, and meaningful consultation.
4. Failing to engage communities and gain their support for renewable energy projects poses significant risks, including project delays, increased costs, and, most importantly, the exacerbation of the climate crisis. The social license to operate is as crucial as any regulatory approval.

I believe that by actively involving communities and First Nations in the planning and development of renewable energy projects, we can build a stronger and more resilient Australia while addressing the urgent climate challenges we face. I kindly request that you use your influence and voice to advocate for these principles within the Australian Government's Community Engagement Inquiry.

Thank you for your dedication to our community and our environment. I look forward to hearing about your efforts to ensure that Australia's transition to renewable energy is a just, inclusive, and sustainable one.

Yours sincerely,



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