

25 October 2023

Department of Planning & Environment Attn: Anthony Ko Locked Bag 5022 PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Via email: information@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Ko,

## Re: Late Submission to HumeLink Proposal - SSI-36656827

The Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO) is a regional leader that advocates for 11 member Councils across the South East NSW, comprising the Councils of Yass Valley, Queanbeyan-Palerang, Eurobodalla, Wingecarribee, Goulburn Mulwaree, Upper Lachlan, Snowy Monaro, Snowy Valleys, Hilltops, and Bega Valley working in partnership with associate member, the ACT Government, covering 92,000 sq kms and a population of 800,000.

At the meeting of the CRJO on the 22nd September it was unanimously resolved that the Canberra Region Joint Organisation oppose the current Hume link proposal and make the following submission. We are aware that the submission period has closed but the Mayors of the CRJO wish the Department to understand that it strongly supports the submissions of its member Council who are adversely affected by this proposal.

The CRJO request from the Department of Planning & Environment on the proposed HumeLink transmission line seeking the inclusion of the following requirements in any approval that may issue:

- The proponent to undertake appropriate landscaping to mitigate the landscape impacts in the Murrumbidgee and Black Rand to Yass Landscape Character Areas due to the reduction of vegetation in these landscapes.
- The proponent to undertake appropriate landscaping to mitigate the visual impacts, both during construction and operation, at the following viewpoints: South from Cooks Hill Road South east from Childowla Road East of Burrinjuck Road East from the Hume Highway, Yass West from Black Range Road.

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- Specific measures be tailored and installed by the proponent for each of the 15 dwellings in Yass Valley impacted by the transmission line to mitigate visual impacts.
- The proponent invests in new accommodation for workers in Yass Valley due to the lack of short-term accommodation.
- The 21 Local Roads in Yass Valley be upgraded by the proponent where necessary to be fit for purpose to accommodation the additional construction traffic prior to the commencement of the transmission line construction. In addition to the commitment to prepare a dilapidation report on the condition of the road surface, the report is required to include existing structural conditions of the pavement of Local Roads to be used by construction traffic. This shall involve a Geotech investigation at the pre-construction stage. The investigation shall also examine anticipated impacts during the construction phase and recommend mitigation measures that should be included as repair work commitments, in the proposed Traffic and Transport Management Plan (which should be more like a "Construction Traffic Management Plan".
- The proponent to maintain and repair Local Roads throughout the construction phase to the appropriate Council standard. The Traffic and Transport Management Plan to include a commitment that any damage caused by construction traffic movements during the construction phase shall be progressively repaired at no cost to Council. In addition, at the completion of construction, a joint assessment between Council staff and the contractor of the Local Roads used during construction to be undertaken to assess any damage by construction traffic.
- The proponent is required to provide a site map showing locations of proposed construction compounds and their accessways and any carparking areas that might be proposed for employees parking spaces. The proponent shall provide a commitment to remove the compounds and parking areas at the completion of construction and restore the sites to their original conditions.
- A Community Enhancement Fund be established by the proponent in accordance with Yass Valley Council's policy based on an annual contribution, while ever the transmission line is operating, equal to 1% of the capital cost divided by the estimated operational life of 20 years.

Thankyou for your consideration and acceptance of this late submission.

Should you require any further information, please contact me on 0499 004 765.

Yours sincerely,

Warwick Bennett Chief Executive Officer