

Malcolm & Kerrie Plum.
107 Burkinshaw's Lane,
Tarcutta, NSW, 2652.

Director – Energy Assessments,
Development Assessment
Dept. of Planning and Environment
4 Parramatta Square,
12 Darcy St,
Parramatta NSW, 2150.

Dear Sir/Madam,

SUBMISSION in RESPONSE to the HUMELINK PROJECT- Application No: SSI- 36656827.

We hereby submit this response to the Humelink Environmental Impact Statement Report.

Whilst we agree in principle with the idea of increasing power availability, we object to the current Humelink proposal on a number of grounds, as follows:

1. Since the Rod Stowe report, consultation has only marginally improved. After relaying our concerns and requests to our project manager or land access officer, they appear to fall on 'deaf' ears, when passed further up the line.
2. The proposed line will run in close proximity to our drought lot facility.
3. It will run through the best part of our only irrigation paddock.
4. It will run through a designated Aboriginal site of significance.
5. It will create a doubling of exposure for humans and livestock, while moving stock beneath two lines, to and from our stock handling facilities.
6. At no stage were our requests to move the line further south on our farm, discussed with us. We made several requests to have technical experts pay us a visit, to conduct an on-ground assessment, to no avail.
7. Our safety during bush fire threats, will become a major issue, whereby a 130m wide path running east/west right through our property, will not be able to be protected by aerial or ground fire-fighting teams. In such an event, the fire could run out of control, along a path 300-350 m from our home and other major infrastructures, risking loss of buildings due to ember attack.
8. Regarding visual impact of the powerlines from our home and front entrance: if the new line is located beside the current one, there will be at least 12 towers visible from our house and garden area. However, we have not been offered a physical inspection, as per the Transgrid fact sheet relating to the Visual Impact Assessment. At the point of sale, the visual impact of these towers is likely to contribute to a huge loss in the value of our property.
9. Re effects of EMF on livestock: we have experienced behavioural issues with ewes lambing in paddocks through which our current 330kv line passes. They become dis-oriented and lose their lambs, exposing their young to predator attack. Another above-ground line will eliminate further areas, for use at lambing. (see link attached relating to behavioural issues in ruminants).

10. Re Transgrid's Aboriginal Cultural Assessment, their list of concerns fails to mention safety for contractors and farm workers, when working in this area. From past experience, when heavy machinery was used to build our irrigation dam, this requires more attention.
11. Due to the use of GPS systems, the extra towers will create a lot of over-lapping during sowing /spraying/ spreading fertilizer and harvesting operations. Since height restrictions will apply beneath the lines, movement of certain machinery will be inhibited.
12. Various native tree-lines and shelter belts, planted 15-20 years ago, run north-south throughout our property. The proposed powerline, running east/west, would intercept several of these tree stands, resulting in the loss of 140 trees, including the loss to bio-diversity and animal welfare. Although replacement trees could be planted, they would take 10 years to reach maturity. If Transgrid had approved our preferred alignment, no trees would need to be removed.

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.0811194106>

We acknowledge and accept the Department of Planning and Environment's disclaimer and declaration.

Declaration of political donations: nil.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis Plum".