

SOS submission VNI-WEST Transmission Proposal

Save Our Surroundings (SOS) OBJECT to VNI-WEST Interconnect because the proposed transmission lines, apart from being environmentally damaging and very costly, will attract ever more industrial Solar/Wind/BESS projects that will further:

1. imbed an inefficient, unreliable, costly, environmentally disastrous, weather vulnerable and weather dependent wind and solar power based electricity system that has not worked anywhere else in the world, but has always resulted in a massively increasing cost of electricity and immediately increased greenhouse emissions where it has been tried
2. reduce our Food Security and our Australian Energy Security, which reduces our National Security; currently our dependence on Chinese supplied wind, solar and battery components approaches 80-90%, which poses significant risks to further supply of replacement components and new projects
3. prevent Australian Energy Independence by excluding proven modern low emissions high energy Coal and Gas power generation and in the near future safe Nuclear SMR Power future
4. increase Public Health and Safety Risks from Electromagnetic Radiation, increase Soil/Food/Water Contamination and increase Energy Deprivation of poorer people and many small and medium businesses
5. ignore proper scientific, engineering and accounting rigour in favour of an unproven, complex and failing electricity system design
6. increase electricity prices and States and National debts for generations of Australians because of the subsidies, grants, loans and favourable market distorting laws, rules and regulations afforded to otherwise unviable renewables projects and their necessary duplication of unproven backup supply (batteries, pumped hydro and hydrogen) at the scale necessary
7. reduce Australia's 6% of arable and farming land and increasingly reducing WILDLIFE HABITATS as more and more is covered by land hungry renewables; environmentalist Michael Shellenberger (Apocalypse Never) says approximately 300-800 times more land is required for Solar/Wind electricity generation than for far superior conventional power generation (HELE-CC, CCGT-CC, large-scale nuclear) and for small nuclear reactors in the near future, all of which can be located near the existing transmission network
8. require at least 1,000% more mining and toxic processing of low yield rare earths and other minerals so decimating more and more wilderness, habitats and wildlife
9. create end-of-life disposal issues of staggering amounts of unrecyclable waste; end-of-life can occur at anytime due to wind and solar vulnerabilities from weather related events storms, lightning, heavy rains, floods, cyclones, hail, as well as fires occurring in turbines, solar panels, batteries, inverters, transformers, etc. or from grass and bush fires
10. ongoing total replacement in under 20 years for wind works generators and 25 years for solar works generators and about 10 years for lithium-ion battery packs and their associated equipments (e.g. air-conditioners, inverters)

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11. huge distances and the substantial transmission losses as they disconnect the generation of electricity from the major centres of electricity consumption, such as major cities and big industrial users
12. ruination of rural Australia life-styles and local communities and result harming Agricultural productivity and communal harmony
13. entrenching a wind and solar electricity generators that at best only produce electricity less than 30% on average over each year, i.e. over 70% of the time no electricity is generated by much of the system; wind droughts, which can last days and affect much of the proposed grid expansion, means no electricity generated at night and little on windless overcast days
14. perpetuate the immoral use of slave labour (Xinjiang Uyghurs for solar components and Cobalt and Copper from the Congo) used to produce the minerals and manufacture of solar panels
15. add to our Economic Suicide net-zero policies: Skyrocketing Energy Prices = Cost of Living Crisis; the more Mandated, Subsidised Solar & Wind works, together with their necessary duplication of storage, in the system the higher the electricity prices
16. demonstrate that there is no social licence from those directly impacted by the prolific expansion of transmissions lines and renewables and those that know the facts about the harm renewables are doing to Australia for no measurable benefit to the reduction in human induced greenhouse gases and their potential impact on global temperatures.

An immediate Moratorium on renewables and a Royal Commission established to investigate the true net benefits of a near 100% renewables based electricity system for Australia.

Yours sincerely
Save Our Surroundings
18 April 2023

Save Our Surroundings (SOS) is part of network of groups of like-minded concerned and impacted citizens that are directly affected by the proliferation of industrial scale weather-dependent “renewables” and their negative impacts on local and global environments and communities. The independently run groups span multiple States and share and distribute information, research and experiences with each other and other parties.