



28 May 2021

Mayor Kathy Majdlik  
Melton City Council  
PO Box 21 Melton VIC 3337  
Email [kathym@melton.vic.gov.au](mailto:kathym@melton.vic.gov.au)

Level 22  
530 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Postal Address:  
GPO Box 2008  
Melbourne VIC 3001

T 1300 858724  
F 03 9609 8080

Dear Mayor Majdlik

Western Victoria Transmission Network Project

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2021 and Melton City Council's ongoing engagement with AEMO and AusNet Services in relation to this project.

AEMO understands that members of the community hold concerns about the environmental, safety and community impacts of transmission lines and I can appreciate that some community members and councils may prefer an underground solution. Careful consideration of information, suggestions and concerns raised by all stakeholders, including the work commissioned by Moorabool Shire Council, is critical to the development of an appropriately and sensitively designed, located and constructed Project.

AEMO acknowledges the four Councils' collective request that undergrounding be further explored and considered before any final decisions about the project are made. I can confirm that AusNet Services, as project proponent, will consider the environmental impacts of undergrounding compared to overhead transmission lines and factors such as geology, groundwater and disruption to agricultural practices in its Environment Effects Statement, together with further assessment of viable project alternatives. I encourage you to seek further information from AusNet Services on the scope of these works.

Thank you again for contacting me about this issue. AEMO is committed to continuing to work with impacted Councils, DELWP and AusNet Services, to support the sensitive delivery of this important project. If you have any further questions or comments about the project, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or Stephanie McGregor at [stephanie.mcgregor@ausnetservices.com.au](mailto:stephanie.mcgregor@ausnetservices.com.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Chappel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tony" being more prominent than the last name "Chappel".

Tony Chappel  
Chief External Affairs Officer