



Hon Geoff Wilson MP
Member for Ferny Grove

Your Ref: Petitions
Our Ref: ME/08/4026, MC2772

22 DEC 2008

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I am in receipt of Petition number 1150-08 by the Queensland Legislative Assembly dated 11 November 2008. I have considered the Petition carefully and in accord with the requirement of Standing Orders of the Queensland Legislative Assembly, I am pleased to provide my response to the Petition.

ENERGEX is proposing to extend the 110 kilovolt powerline from the Mudgeeraba Substation on the eastern side of the Pacific Motorway to a proposed new substation at West Tugun adjacent to the new desalination plant. The proposed powerline will augment the electricity supply to the rapidly growing southern Gold Coast area including the Tugun Desalination Plant.

ENERGEX is working alongside the Department of Main Roads, Queensland Rail and Queensland Transport in planning major infrastructure developments in the area in line with the South East Queensland Regional Plan. This Plan promotes co-location of infrastructure where possible.

As part of the planning process, ENERGEX is consulting with local residents, impacted landholders, community and other stakeholders, including the Gold Coast City Council and Members of Parliament, about the proposed powerline route.

ENERGEX has established a community reference group to provide further opportunities for community members and stakeholders to provide feedback on the project. ENERGEX has also established a Community Engagement Team (the Team) to answer any public queries. The Team can be contacted on freecall 1800 025 158 or by email mudgeerabatotugun@energex.com.au. Alternatively, details on the project can be accessed on ENERGEX's website at www.energex.com.au.

Prior to ENERGEX making any decision on the preferred route, there are other processes to be completed before final determinations regarding this project are made. Public consultation on the Initial Assessment Report (IAR) closed on 10 October 2008.



**Queensland
Government**

LAI	
UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE	
No.: 5208T4953	Minister for Mines and Energy
24 DEC 2008	
MP: Hon. G. Wilson MP	
Clerk's Signature: _____	

[Handwritten signature and date 24/12/08]

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In October 2008, ENERGEX also released for public consultation information about the costs of undergrounding the project. This information was sent to landowners and various stakeholders and is also available from ENERGEX's website. The closing date for submissions was 21 November 2008.

Submissions received in response to the IAR and to the additional costings information for underground options will be taken into account by ENERGEX before developing the Final Assessment Report.

ENERGEX has indicated that it intends to request Ministerial designation under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* of the corridor of land required for this project as land for community infrastructure. In order to proceed with such a request, ENERGEX will be required to formally advise landowners and other stakeholders of its intention and provide a further opportunity for landowners to make submissions regarding the project. This would occur after the Final Assessment Report is released.

While I acknowledge the matters raised in the Petition, as ENERGEX is still undertaking the processes necessary for implementation of the project, it is important that the views and concerns of affected landholders, the community and other stakeholders be addressed through those processes. For this reason, I encourage all interested parties to raise any concerns about the project through the consultation processes being undertaken for the project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Wilson', written in a cursive style.

GEOFF WILSON MP
Minister for Mines and Energy