Media Release



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People power: Farmers set to descend on Victorian Parliament

Victorian farmers will descend on Parliament House in Melbourne next Tuesday 15 August for the 'Stop the Towers' rally, in response to the proposed VNI West and Western Renewables Link transmission projects.

Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) President Emma Germano said the state's peak farming lobby supports farming voices heard by the rally organisers.

"The Andrews government has failed to adequately plan for the transition to renewable energy and it's completely unacceptable that farmers and our regional communities are set to pay the price."

"Farmers and regional communities have been taken for a ride since these projects were announced and I'm not surprised that frustration is leading directly to Spring Street."

"It's the clear view of the VFF that an immediate stop to all activities related to the planning and construction of the Western Renewables Link and VNI-West transmission projects must be made."

Ms Germano added that in addition to the planned rally, the <u>VFF has launched a petition</u> to the Victorian Parliament calling for the VNI West and Western Renewables Link transmission projects to be stopped.

"The government can't continue to ignore the mounting opposition to these planned projects and they must act immediately and reassess, before they do irreversible damage to Victoria's food bowl."

"I'd encourage all community members to share the petition and sign it as soon as possible. It's important that original copies of the signed petitions are sent back to the VFF head office so they can be tabled in Parliament," Ms Germano said.

RALLY INFORMATION:

- When: Tuesday 15 August, 12:45pm
- Where: Victorian State Parliament steps, Spring Street, Melbourne
- Organiser: 'Stop the Towers' rally, Glenden Watts, 0438 653 081

ENDS

VFF Media Contacts: Ryan Moloney, 0400 874 589