



Media Release
Wednesday 20 August 2008

Community Rally Reinforces the “Put them Underground” message to Energex

Sunday 24th August is the date for the next Stop the Overhead Powerlines (S.T.O.P.) group public rally. The rally will bring the public up to date with events over the past three months since the last rally. Speakers at the rally will ensure that the State Government and Energex cannot be mistaken about the message that overhead powerlines are not acceptable to residents along the route from Mudgeeraba to Tugun. The residents are demanding that the powerlines are put underground.

The rally will be held at 10am Sunday, 24th of August in the Salk Oval Park at Palm Beach and is an opportunity for residents to demonstrate their resolve to have the lines underground to build further support. Government, community and resident speakers will present the residents' case and there will be letters and petitions to sign as well as red and white bunting to display on their letterboxes, stickers. A sausage sizzle will raise the funds needed to continue the campaign.

John Cooper, S.T.O.P. representative said, “The residents are exasperated at the apparent lack of understanding by Energex of the community views. It seems to be only money that is preventing Energex from putting the lines underground. It only needs some political will to ensure this happens. We are putting the Government on notice that we will not go away until this is achieved. Invitations have gone to The Premier, Anna Bligh; The Minister for Mines and Energy, Geoff Wilson; local Members of Parliament, Jann Stuckey, Christine Smith and Diane Reilly; Members of the Opposition Lawrence Springborg and Jeff Seeney; Gold Coast Mayor, Ron Clark, Councillors Robbins and MacDonald who are already showing their support, as well as representatives from Energex.”

It is documented that other States are responding to community concerns and putting powerlines underground, but Queensland power provider Energex is behind the times. It is not acceptable that in the 21st Century people are expected to live next door to high voltage powerlines.

All Gold Coasters must support this campaign as they might be next. Residents of Mudgeeraba, Reedy Creek, Elanora, Currumbin and Tugun are expected to attend as well as business owners and their staff who will be affected by Energex's proposal.

The S.T.O.P. group meets every Thursday at 4pm at Gecko House, Currumbin to plan its next steps. Anyone interested in contributing is most welcome to attend.

ENDS.

For further information, please ring the following directly:

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