



STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA (Chair), Mr James Milligan MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

Inquiry into West Belconnen supercell thunderstorm
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
1 July 2022

Asked by the Chair on 1 July 2022: Mr Billing took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Proof Transcript 1 July 2022 [PAGE 43-44]]

In relation to:

Mr Billing: So if we were to allocate, say \$20 million a year, for example, to underground suburbs it would be at the expense of not doing other work, unless the Australian Energy Regulator specifically allocated funds for that work.

MR MILLIGAN: And that cannot come from government—from those funds?

Mr Billing: Look, I really have to take that question on notice as to how that might be dealt with. That is a really—

MR MILLIGAN: Yes.

Mr Billing: —regulatory question that I am—that is probably beyond me answering off the top—

MR MILLIGAN: Sure.

Mr Billing: But we can certainly ask that question.

[EVOENERGY]: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

In theory, the ACT Government could make capital contributions to fund undergrounding of Evoenergy electricity assets, which would not be included on Evoenergy's regulatory asset base. Therefore, these costs would not be passed onto consumers through network charges. If this option was to be explored further, legal advice would be required to determine how this funding arrangement could be accommodated under the National Electricity Rules and the mechanisms required to establish such a funding arrangement.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Signature:

Date:

Name: