



**Jason Falinski MP**  
Member for Mackellar

Mr Michael Wiener  
President  
West Pittwater Community Association

Dear Mr Wiener

**Local Power Supply –Western Foreshores of Pittwater & Scotland Island**

In late 2016 you brought to my attention that there had been little progress in the installation of a submarine cable from Little Lovett Bay to Scotland Island, which Ausgrid had been considering installing following extended power outages in December 2013 and February 2015.

In January 2017, I wrote to the Chairman of the Board of Ausgrid demanding to know where this project was up to because residents had heard very little from Ausgrid since 2015. Following my letter, I met with Ausgrid.

Ausgrid expressed regret about the lack of communication with residents in relation to this project and acknowledged that this needed to be improved. Ausgrid informed me that they have now adopted the following time table for the project to improve energy security on the Western Foreshores of Pittwater and Scotland Island:

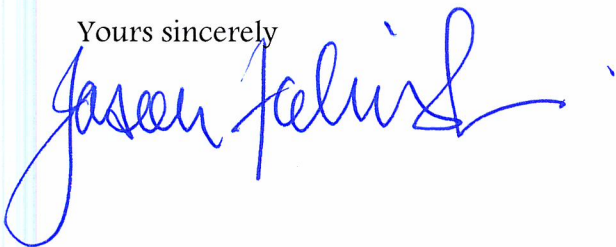
1. February 2017 – preparing for engagement – briefing with MPs, Council, National Parks and community groups. I understand that some briefings with community groups have occurred and will continue.



2. February to March 2017 – early engagement – Ausgrid will update residents on the project and seek feedback regarding options to improve energy security, which may include installation of battery cells, fixed generators, and additional submarine cables.
3. Mid 2017 – consultation on options – community sessions for information and to seek feedback will be held.
4. Mid 2017- project assessment – the options will be assessed with customer, business and environmental plans to be prepared. The community will have the opportunity to make submissions.
5. Late 2017 – project approval process – plans will be finalised with final community feedback to be sought. A decision will then be made with what options will ne implemented.
6. End of 2017 – project start – ongoing community engagement including liaison around construction plans.

I will continue my engagement with Ausgrid around the status of this project and they have committed to keeping me informed. However, if you have any feedback from your end, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Felius". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and 'F'.