

Submissions to IPC Bango Wind Farm

John McGrath

Black Range Road  
Yass NSW 2582

Wednesday, 28 March 2018

Dear Commissioners for the IPC Bango Wind Farm

I urge the Bango IPC to reject Bango wind farms' final approval for 2 reasons as CWP will run their interconnecting transmission cables underground;

1. Hydrology. If the information I have is that these cables in the vicinity of 33KV (33,000 volts) are to be buried a minimum of 800mm below ground surface level, and obviously deeper. Then the natural hydrology of the footprint of the Bango wind farms will forever change.  
Viz; the normal flow of springs will be affected in that the water will now travel via the disturbed soil and between the hard surface of the trench, thus for instance a creek that was traditionally spring fed for the millennium may effectively run dry, as its water source has been diverted.
2. Due to the fact that, NSW has no legislation for requirement of wind farms to be decommissioned and on more than 1 occasion I have been informed by various wind farm proponents that the underground cabling installed will never be retrieved should, if any form of decommissioning ever occur. Thus, there in lies a permanent hydrological issue.

Regards

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Dear Commissioners for the IPC Bango Wind Farm

I urge the Bango IPC to reject Bango wind farms' final approval because of impact on local community.

Meaning that because of the intrusion of this development pushed by foreign owned companies into an area normally in harmonic relationship between neighbours, it has caused disharmony and suspicions between these once harmonic neighbours.

Therefore, this whole project, the Bango wind farm interrupts the local community's co-hession.

Please consider this aspect before making your final decision

Regards

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Dear Commissioners for the IPC Bango Wind Farm

I urge the Bango IPC to reject Bango wind farms' final approval because of basically CWPs genuine lack of gaining an effective EIS for Bango wind farm.

As you are no doubt aware of the approved increased rotor tip of the wind turbines for Bango wind farm, then logically you should be able to see that a machine with blades that create such a massive rotor swept area must heavily impact on all manner of flying creatures.

Of particular concern with Bango wind farm is the Superb Parrot *Polytelis swainsonii*, the parrots current NSW status is vulnerable.

Reference NSW Department of Environment and Heritage site upgraded December 2017.

Obviously, this bird is only 1 species of flying creature that will be heavily impacted should you decide to recommend this project, but given the vulnerable status of the Superb Parrot, does it need further pressure to push it over the edge to extinction in its natural habitat.

The area surrounding Boorowa is a highly recognised breeding ground for these parrots, which commence breeding after their arrival from their Northern haunts in mid-September each year. Departing their breeding ground, for their favoured Northern haunts when their fledged chicks are on the wing in mid-January the following year.

To cap off as an observer at a CWP Bango wind farm CCC 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017, when invited by Bango CWP CCC Chair Lisa Andrews if I had any questions. Which I did of I asked CWPs Environmentalist present at that meeting what were CWPs intentions were with mitigating blade strike to the Superb Parrot, and it was well clear to me that the CWP Environmentalists was lacking in knowledge of this bird. Therefore, how could CWP have plans in place to reduce blade strike within the footprint of Bango wind farm, when they have little to no knowledge of the bird.

Regards

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Superb Parrot and Impact on Flying Animals

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Dear Commissioners for the IPC Bango Wind Farm

I urge the Bango IPC to reject Bango wind farms' final approval because of genuine lack of transparency by the proponent CWP.

I cite 2 occasions;

1. As an observer at a Bango CWP CCC held in Boorowa 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 when invited to ask a question of CWP representatives I did. I asked had there been any resistive submissions against CWP Sapphire wind farm being constructed between Glen Innis and Inverell in the NSW New England?

No there hadn't according to the CWP representative.

In response to this negative response I produced a printed off document between 6 and 8mm thick of such responses.

2. Later on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 I attended a CWP Bango wind farm Open Day at the Boorowa RSL Club. I was speaking with the operator of CWPs Boco Rock wind farm, and I asked him where wind farms subsidized, he replied No.

Obviously, this is not a transparent response as its well know that wind farms benefit from Renewable Energy Certificates for 1.

This lack of transparency is an across the board phenomena with CWP

Therefore, I ask that in giving you approval to the Bango wind farm that you take into consideration this.

Regards

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Dear Commissioners for the IPC Bango Wind Farm

I urge the Bango IPC to reject Bango wind farms' final approval as an elected Deputy Fire Brigade Captain of Bowning Fire Brigade because CWP is disseminating misinformation on fire control measures stating that with the new Bango wind farm access tracks, that these track installations will assist in ground fire control. Viz gaining access to high ridges for Rural Fire Service firefighting trucks.

In my 46 years of volunteer fire fighting, I have learnt that the only safe way to control a fire on a high ridge, in todays world especially is to cut a perimeter fire break around the base of a hill by machine and allow a slow burn down that ridge to that containment line.

Generally, these wind farm access tracks are constructed along high ridgelines to gain access to typical wind turbine siting positions. Sending a maned tanker onto a high ridge such as is typical site of the wind turbines on a bad fire day would be criminally negligent for any Volunteer Brigade Captain or their deputy.

Basically, in so doing the fire crew could well lose their lives, possibly resulting in a manslaughter charge being laid against the person ordering such a deed.

Therefore, these wind farm access roads pose no benefit in fire control to and Rural Fire Service truck.

Depending on the conditions these access tracks maybe only useful as a line of defence for aerial bombardment should said wind farm be "locked off"

I urge you to consider basically the dissemination of misinformation on fire control by the Bango wind farm proponent CWP as a further reason to reject the approval of this development.

Regards

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Dear Commissioners for the IPC Bango Wind Farm

I urge the Bango IPC to reject Bango wind farms' final approval because of genuine lack of consultation with other than locals prepared to be hosts for this industrial establishment.

Meaning there's' been nil to very little consultation with the non-involved area local population other than via several CCC meetings and a CWP Bango open day held the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in Boorowa.

Still many people that are and can be impacted by this development are lacking factual information as to how their lives will be affected.

I urge you to consider this fact before making a final decision

Regards

John McGrath