

HILLS OF GOLD WIND FARM

OBJECTION

We object to the proposed Hills of Gold Wind Farm. It is not a farm it is an industrial development in a farming area. During the last forty years my wife and I (and family later) have been regular visitors to Nundle.

It is most unfortunate this unsightly, environmentally irresponsible, and divisive proposal has got this far.

It is totally at odds with existing land uses in the area which have been primary production since 1885.

Would you please note the following reasons for this objection to the proposal:

- Visual – it is ugly and visually objectionable, a scar on the rural landscape and not in keeping with the aesthetics and long held land uses of this historic region. The area has high scenic and conservation values.

Landscape and Visual Photomontages are required under the process and are missing – these photomontages are required, the principal location at Wombrumurra of the full development including any lights which are on at nighttime – these montages should be the view from several locations including but not limited to Hanging Rock lookout. The same montages should be duplicated from the optional location at Governor's Shelf.

Other montages should also include the traverse track on Wombrumma Mountain including cuts and batters. Together with the access road behind the Peel Inn (given it is an access to the township) and the proposed construction vehicles car park.

- Habitat under threat and destruction of vegetation – protected, threatened and other species will be severely impacted during the many years of the proposed development – large swathes of vegetation and home to many animal habitats will be destroyed.

- Loss of Wildlife – the rotation of these enormous industrial blades will kill many birds including but not limited to the protected Wedgetail eagle – breeding areas of wildlife will be decimated.
- Community – the community was once cohesive and neighbourly, it is now divisive and is pitting neighbour against neighbour – this will only get worse over time.
- Water quality – erosion from the development will find its way into the creeks and waterways leading to Chaffey Dam – this will lead to silting issues, degradation of the water quality for the habitat living in and around the creeks.
- Roads and bridge access – Barry Road and Morrisons Gap Road are not capable of handling heavy industrial type machinery and should be removed from any transport route options– Oakenville Creek bridge has not been assessed to handle such heavy non-farm type loads nor is it wide enough – Devil’s Elbow is also not suitable for heavy industry when going up the winding road.
- Erosion – despite erosion mitigation measures there will be erosion of road embankments and development areas which will silt up Nundle Creek, various minor waterways and eventually will impact on Chaffey Dam.
- Noise – the noise and vibration of rotating blades – this will adversely affect the wildlife and breeding patterns and kill many birds during flight.
The noise during the years of construction and many truck movements particularly around Hanging Rock village including Sheba Dams tourism precinct will be untenable.
- Tourism – people come to Nundle for its natural beauty, village quaintness and rugged untouched environment – all of which will be

impacted by the intrusion of an unsightly industrial development – this is a threat to Nundle’s tourism and commerce – people come to Nundle to get away from such industrialisation.

- Unknown underground mine shafts – various parts of Nundle have been mined for gold, opal, and other precious commodities during and after the gold rush days in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries – this could lead to unstable underground conditions should those areas be developed.