

I have been a resident of Nundle for 57 years and I value the peace and quiet of my life here. The unimpeded, unique views of the mountain range and bush I enjoy from my property is integral to my deep love of the environment and community. As you can imagine, living in a place for as long as I have there is a long-held and precious connection to this land and the people who have chosen to make their homes here. All this is in jeopardy and I am very saddened to be witness to the industrialisation of such a unique and beautiful landscape. Already there has been real and ongoing discord and disharmony and division within the community that is palpable. We have been living with this upheaval of our generally peaceful and harmonious lives for six years and we are tired and wearied by it all.

My husband and I have been strong environmentalists our whole lives and brought up two sons to have the same values. I feel this project should never have been given the approval to prospect on a ridge that overlooks a village. It will require extensive vegetation and tree removal, put the lives of animals in jeopardy, destroy our peace and well being and impact the tourism aspect of our community.

This development is definitely the wrong location for a project such as a wind farm. This whole debacle flows from one man's desire to have a wind farm on his property.

The new amended transport routes are no solution to this project's many problems. The bypass road behind the Peel Inn is to be constructed up to a height of 2.5m in some parts on a hard surface on a flood plain. This bypass runs through the heart of our village and will change the usage, the character and the amenity way into the distant future. In fact, it will destroy the quiet, amenity of our lives forever in my case.

I live approximately 40 metres from the transport route and yet I have never had any noise assessments done from my property nor have I ever been contacted by the proponent regarding this at any time during this six year period since the project was first mooted. I will be impacted by the visuals from my home as well.

I am disappointed to report that the proponent has behaved in a disrespectful and egregious manner towards our community.

Shouldn't the proponent have had to prove that they could access the site before being given permission to put in an EIS? It is obvious there were always insurmountable obstacles to transporting heavy, oversize components to this steep, treacherous site through a quiet village and treelined countryside. There are swathes of trees that will need to be removed changing the whole character of our countryside.

I wish the IPC to consider the local community objection that has always been strong and consistent and well researched. The proponent does not have community support and therefore no social licence for the project to go ahead.

I ask that any turbines that are proposed anywhere near Ben Hall's Gap Nature Reserve be removed. This is the home of so many of our endangered and rare flora, fauna and avian species. I also draw your attention to the Sphagnum Moss cool temperate region species that exists in the Nature Reserve and is now in the critically endangered category.

The IPC should very carefully consider the bushfire strategies in place as access to firefighting in these difficult to access areas is a vital and serious concern to me. We have already seen how quickly these bushfires can get out of control up there and the only way to fight them is aerially – turbines cannot impede this access.

I ask the IPC to consider the evidence of land slippage that already exists in the project footprint. When you add to that the extreme cut and fill required to produce roads on the ridge you can deduce that there will be considerably more dramatic slippage and runoff into our waterways.

I strongly object to the removal of village trees. I was a member of the Garden Club of Nundle that planted those trees. I have watched them grow and feel they stand at the entrance and throughout the village as a testament to our community's love of the natural environment and as such they provide so much to the character of Nundle.

I value our dark night skies but these will be forever changed with the blinking of red aviation hazard lights.

There are so many things about this project that are seriously wrong but I want the IPC to take into account the value that should be placed on how people who have lived in and are deeply attached to a place are displaced and expected to have their world turned upside down for a project that does not really have genuine "green" credentials.

I ask the IPC to reject this project.