

Our family owns Odgers and McClelland Exchange Stores at 81 Jenkins Street, Nundle.

Our land backs onto the proposed private road, behind The Peel Inn, for transporting up to six Oversize Overmass vehicles per day for nine months carrying wind turbine blades.

We have a residence designed for the rear of our shop. It is our hope that we will build it for use by our children or parents. The construction and operation of the OSOM access will reduce the amenity of our building for workers and customers, and future accommodation for family.

We have experienced two floods through the land behind our store in 25 years and we are concerned that construction of an OSOM access may alter the flood flow on our property.

We request that the IPC make vibration and flood risk assessment and mitigation a condition of the Conditions for properties impacted by the Hills of Gold Wind Farm transport route construction and operation.

We ask that our property, Odgers and McClelland Exchange Stores, is included in the Conditions Appendix 6 Table 6-3: Historic Heritage Items - Avoid

Our heritage listed building is 135 years old, established in the 1890's, and we have run it as a business for 25 years.

This month our small business in Nundle received an international accolade. It was listed in The Shopkeepers Best 100 shops 2023.

Our store is a destination and it is the heritage experience of the building, the traditional stock on the shelves, and the surrounding rural landscape that makes it a shop worth travelling for.

We participate in the annual Tamworth Regional Heritage Week, and we have won two e Awards for Building Conservation, and Adaptive Reuse.

Our property is among nine heritage listed buildings and curtilage in Nundle potentially impacted by the Hills of Gold Wind Farm Transport route,* and a permanent change in landscape character.

Tourism is essential to the operation of our business. There are times when tourists through the door make up 100% of our business. We are listed on the Visit NSW website, and have featured in NSW Government social media, as well as The Australian Women's Weekly, Country Style, Sydney Weekender, and The Sydney Morning Herald.

Our website includes testimonials from Restoration Australia, presenter Sibella Court.

Urban designer, Linda Gregoriou says, "this store is without doubt one of the best retail (if not the best!) stores in regional Australia".

We have hosted Book Lunches on our verandah with Gourmet Farmer Matthew Evans, and Galah magazine editor Annabelle Hickson.

We have a strong following online with 13K followers on Instagram, and 6,000 subscribers to our seasonal newsletter.

The mountain range is central to the distinctiveness of Nundle and Hanging Rock, and the visitor experience.

When I look at the mountain range I imagine the additional 190 hectares of native vegetation that will be cleared for infrastructure, the associated biodiversity loss, and animals that will be displaced or killed by habitat loss, bird and bat strike, or barotrauma.

As I walk around the village and surrounding roads I note mature trees, fences and maybe even a house that would need to be removed to make way for heavy vehicles.

The entrance to the village would be industrialised. There has been no assessment of the visual impact of fencing, or removing mature trees at the entrance to the village, and the civic corner of the Tamworth Regional Council Nundle Office, Library, and Community Garden, and All Saints' Anglican Church.

It is not known whether the Peel River Bridge at the entrance to Nundle will need replacing to carry the heaviest 171 tonne load. Nothing is known about a proposed commuter car park within walking distance of the village, or proposed No Parking Zones on Oakenville Street, where we access Nundle Post Office five days a week for our mail, or Jenkins Street.

Based on our lived experience as shopkeepers in Nundle, having experienced flood, drought, bushfire, and COVID lockdowns we know that the tourism grapevine of road disruptions result in a dramatic drop in tourists, and retail income.

Our village morning and afternoon traffic would increase by 4-6 times the existing baseline and important access roads Nundle Road and Lindsays Gap Rd would be congested.

We cannot expose our family to the associated risk of lost income from reduced tourism resulting from wind farm road modifications, infrastructure construction, and ongoing operation.

The uncertainty is already stopping us from investing in new product lines and introducing building improvements.

If Hills of Gold Wind Farm is approved we will need to close our store and seek income elsewhere.

This undoes everything we have worked for in the past 25 years, not just as a family, but as a cooperative group of business owners.

The DPPI Assessment that 47 wind turbines on the mountain range would have 'limited impacts on tourism' is wrong.

It will close our tourism business, and have implications for other tourism businesses in Nundle and surrounding LGAs.

Please recommend rejection of Hills of Gold Wind Farm, and instead encourage investment in renewable sites with evidence of access, away from national parks, and people.