

February 12, 2024

**NSW Major Projects References**

Application Number: SSD-9679

EPBC ID Number: 2019/8535

Professor Mary O'Kane AC  
Chair  
Office of the Independent Planning Commission NSW  
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SYDNEY NSW 2000  
Email: ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

Dear Prof. O'Kane


**Subject: Reference number SSD-9679 – Hills of Gold Wind Farm**

**Response to the DPE Assessment Report and Recommended Conditions of Consent on the Proposed Hills of Gold Windfarm**

We, the *Tamworth Regional Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc.* (the Association), continue to *object* to the proposed windfarm at Nundle going ahead for the following reasons:

1. Despite assurances that the proposal covers a very small area of the total catchment and that, as a result, the impact on inflows to Chaffey Dam would be minimal, reports to substantiate this appear lacking. We refer specifically to report Appendix N prepared by Dr Robert Baker that has not been subsequently addressed by the proponent. We are very sensitive to this issue because Tamworth very nearly ran out of water just a few years ago in 2018-2019.
2. The *Association supports the Tamworth Regional Council in its opposition* to the proposal because of the steepness of the slopes and soil types and subsequent difficulties of access. Road construction for access will have adverse impacts on sediment control and run-off.
3. The Department of Planning and Environment should not have approved the windfarm because of the insufficient detail on water and construction provided by the proponent. Relying on the detailed design phase after approval, to address these issues, is fraught with danger.

Yours sincerely

  
**Robyn Lang**  
Secretary