From:
To:

IPCN Enquiries Mailbox

Subject: CRUDINE RIDGE WIND FARM MOD 1

Date: Saturday, 15 June 2019 10:03:45 AM

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• to the commissioners

my name is Peter Robb I am a permanent resident of Aarons Pass road. I give my full support to the road upgrade and wind farm project. I have been using this road for 38 years and have seen very little change to the road in that time apart from major works at the Castlereagh hwy end moving the highway by up to 100mtrs with the removal of many trees all without protest. Aarons Pass road is 23klms of dirt narrow and tree lined the trees determine the width of the road being right up to the edge of the road surface. visibility is bad for both oncoming traffic and wildlife, roo strikes along this road are high there has also been head on collisions with cars. most of the road has a shared lane with 3 distinct tyre tracks meaning oncoming traffic has to nearly stop and try to find a suitable place to pass. Aarons Pass road has recently been maintained by A1 earthworks a local company working for CWP, when you did your drive through on tue 11th June the road was in the best condition I have seen, no potholes no corrugations and no erosion trenches across the road. on may 3rd as little as 20mm of rain stopped traffic 2klms from bocoble rd when the dust turned to greasy mud. recently Paul Toole mp announced funding for the Bridle track reopening a popular tourist road between Hill End and Bathurst at the same time Andrew Gee mp announced funding for the Dixons Long Pt road between Orange and Hill End both these roads will cause more traffic along Aarons Pass and Sallys Flat roads as tourists visit the historic gold mining towns in the area and return using the Bylong Valley Way to the coast or Castlereagh hwy back to Sydney. there has been a noticeable increase in traffic on Aarons Pass rd in recent years with people going to Windeyer caravan park people towing horse trailers and the increasing number of people who own weekenders in the area who would all appreciate a smoother safer road to travel on.

- dust along this road has always been a problem and always will be, like all rural unsealed roads. unfortunately while work has been carried out on the wind farm site we have been in one of the driest periods on record. Aarons Pass rd has a small cluster of permanent residents between Bocoble rd and the Perke rd area possibly as few as a dozen of us the rest of the road is either weekenders or larger holdings with no houses. water tankers have concentrated on the areas around houses to try and help us minimise dust entering our water tanks which we all rely on. the obvious solution would be to tar seal Aarons Pass rd but I have heard Midwestern regional council do not want this.
- tree clearing has been a major issue recently I would like to remind you the CWP site was already cleared grazing land so the main area of concern is a thin strip of trees along the road an insignificant number when you look at satellite images of the many thousands of hectares of native bush on either side of the road. according to

LLS.GOV.AU guidelines central west zones which we are in, states we can clear to a width of 30mtrs any fence line - building - permanent structure such as yards etc. I could easily clear 10 hectares by clearing fence lines in some of my heavily timbered paddocks all without jumping through the hoops CWP has to. we all live on land that was once cleared and we actively keep it cleared every time we use poison - put the slasher on the tractor - plough a field or graze livestock in a paddock. it would be hypocritical to suggest removing some trees along a narrow dirt road is wrong when you live on large profit making property all made possible by the removal of trees. the trees along our boundary fence need to be checked every time we have strong winds. we have had to clear the road on dozens of occasions when trees block traffic as you may have witnessed the fallen tree 2klms from the Bocoble turnoff on your way through on 11th june. the people opposed to this project mainly live to the west of the site and would rarely travel this way they have a sealed road all the way back to Mudgee from the crossroads at Pyramul.

- the economic benefits of this project will not only help the landowners who host infrastructure but also local businesses from earthmoving garbage+ waste collection transport to fencing contractors. if money given to local council is kept in the area of the project it will help with the local villages roads public buildings etc. the people who make money out of this project have been criticised as being greedy by some in opposition to the project, but the use of rural land to make money by any legal means is a basic right for the land owner. we have been accused of changing our minds to support the CWP only when money was offered, this is untrue we gave full support in 2011 money was not mentioned till we signed an agreement in 2017.
- we live in an area with no grid supplied power and rely on solar and wind power to give us 100% of our power needs. wind should be used in these sparsely populated high ridges.
- in conclusion I would encourage the commissioners to approve this project. I am sure in years to come we will drive down a wider safer road past the wind turbines and wonder what all the fuss was about.
- THANK YOU for your time.
- Peter Robb