

Flyers Creek Wind Farm Modification 4

Application No 08_0252 MOD 4

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to object to Flyers Creek Wind Farm MOD 4.

Firstly, the Proponent wishes to increase the height of the wind turbines, or the wind turbine envelope, by 10m. By increasing the length of the blades, there will be even more of a visual impact on our property. The Proponent has stated, in 6.2 Visual, that their assessment of the visual effects associated with this increase will be "Low to Negligible". As a dwelling that will have direct sight of the turbines, we feel that that statement is misleading and unjust.

We currently have a beautiful view along Flyers Creek Valley and the surrounding hills. The erection of Flyers Creek Wind Farm will change our view forever. As shown in Green Bean Design, Figure 25 Wire Frame W14, Residence 17 (page 110), you can clearly see multiple wind turbines. Now many people will argue that 10m is not much, however that makes a huge difference when you are looking at these already massive structures every day. We have a very clear view of the blades of Turbines 10 and 11. Our front veranda and main living area have views in this direction. To say that the visual impacts will be Low to Negligible is not fair and in no way represents how our beautiful views will be disrupted. In Table 7 – Magnitude of visual effect matrix, our residential dwelling (number 17) has been listed as having Moderate-Low impact visual rating. How is this negligible??? It is also stated that trees help to block the visual impact of these Turbines (Table 8 – Visual assessment matrix). If you come and look along the ridge where Turbines 10 and 11 will be visible, there are NO trees, so this is not a valid argument. By changing anything, whether it be a Wind Turbine blade or the speed you are driving, by nearly 7%, it can NOT be considered negligible.

By increasing the length of the blades, we will also see an increase in Shadow Flicker at our residence as the Wind Turbines lay east to north east of our property. WSP Australia Pty Limited have undertaken an updated flicker assessment that considers "worst case" scenarios, with no cloud cover. In this current climate, where we have been drought declared, with limited rain and also clouds, there is a possibility that "worst case" could become more likely. We currently experience no shadow flicker, so how can we be certain that this will have no impact on our young family. In a worst case scenario, we will experience 7 hours of flicker per year, 19 minutes a day (WSP, Appendix A Shadow Flicker Results for FCWF. Table A.1), and realistically 2.22 hours of flicker per year. We feel that there has been no appropriate mention of how this Shadow Flicker will be monitored throughout the lifetime of the windfarm. All 'non associated' residences surrounding the windfarm should have a form of monitoring at their residence to make sure the Shadow Flicker is not being exceeded.

Increasing the length of the Wind Turbine blades will also see an increase in noise at our residence. It is clearly stated the increase in height will "generate a slight increase in predicted noise levels". Our property is approximately 1.7km from the closest Wind Turbine, so we will

definitely have an increase in noise. We have 3 young children and their health and wellbeing is naturally a major priority in their upbringing. Any increase in noise could have a detrimental effect on their sleep patterns. If people do not get an adequate amount of sleep each night, many studies have shown that this can cause many health problems.

The Proponent has Noise Loggers situated throughout the Flyers Creek Wind Farm (as seen on Figure 4 – Noise Monitoring Sites and Receivers), however the closest Noise Logger to our Residence is over 3kms away. This same Noise Logger is over 3kms away from Turbine 10, which affects our Residence and over 2kms away from the nearest Wind Turbine in the opposite direction! We are approximately 1.7km from Turbine 10. How can the results be adequate for everyone surrounding the Wind Farm? We do not feel that the associated noise with the Flyers Creek Wind Farm is being taken seriously enough, and more Noise Loggers should be an option, in more appropriate positions. We also feel there is no direct way to contact anyone in the Wind Farm if we feel the noise is too much at any one time and how this will be actioned by the Proponent.

Secondly, the Proponent wishes to reinstate a 132kV transmission line.

We object to the 132kV transmission line along Panuara Road and where it travels in front of our Residence (number 17).

Table 9 of the Green Bean Design report states that our Residence (number 17) will be 75m from the transmission line. This section runs directly in front of our house, which not only visually disrupts our views, but we also fear it is very close to our residence and makes it unsafe. There are limited trees to block the view of this section of the transmission line, and we would be limited by what trees we could plant to “hide” the transmission line as you need an easement for the transmission line.

The said 132kV Transmission line may also be above ground along Panuara Road. Given that the easement of the Panuara Road near our entry is only approximately 22m wide, we can't understand how that is viable. It must also be noted that Panuara Road is very busy during the early mornings and evenings due to traffic coming and going to Cadia Mine. Having power poles that close to the road would be extremely unsafe.

There is a very thorough report on Aviation in the modification. Further to our objections, we would also like to add that another worry is that we will now be in a ‘no fly’ area, which will have terrible repercussions in the event of a bushfire. Recently there was a major bushfire on Mount Canobolas, near Orange, not far from where we live. The planes and helicopters that were used to help fight that fire were irreplaceable. In the event of a bushfire, we fear that our house and surrounding property would be majorly damaged without the assistance of firefighting aircraft.

Incidental to our objections, we must also comment that in the most recent map (Figure 1 FCWF approved wind turbine layout) by Flyers Creek Wind Farm Modification 4, it still saddens us to see that the “Non Associated” dwellings outnumber the “Associated” dwellings

35 to 21, within a 2.15km radius. On an even larger scale of a 3.2km radius, this number grows substantially with Non Associated dwellings out numbering Associated dwellings by 78 to 24. So approximately 25% of residents within a 3.2km radius will benefit from the Flyers Creek Wind Farm, whilst the other 75% will suffer the visual, noise, shadow flicker, reduced land values, and whatever other problems may arise for years to come. Not really a fair outcome.

Yours sincerely,

Geoffrey and Vanessa Knox