

From: [REDACTED]
To: [IPCN Submissions Mailbox](#)
Subject: Glanmire Solar Installation by Elgin
Date: Friday, 1 December 2023 11:09:39 AM

Dear Sir / Madam,

I hereby submit my official rejection of the proposed installation of a Solar Power Installation upon prime cropping farmland at Glanmire, located just to the east of Bathurst NSW. These are my reasons:

* The battery itself, approximately 12 meters in height, is classified as “Dangerous Goods prohibited within 10 kilometres from the outskirts of a town / city”. The proposed block of land is well WITHIN this area as the Outskirts is at the eastern end of Raglan which is also where the airport is located.

* Elgin proposes a “buffer zone” of 10meters to 30 meters right around the property, however this buffer zone will include an already-existing public road along one 2000meter side plus another private road on a neighbouring property which actually belongs to the neighbouring farm and will not be a part of the Elgin installation.

* Elgin has boasted of installing 20,000 litres of water for fire fighting. We have the legal requirement of a 25,500 litre tank specifically for fire-fighting on our property - this is the minimum required in a bushfire prone residential area, per single dwelling. What is legally required for such a hazardous development on a larger block of land which will cover the whole block of land, and which is away from any form of free-flowing water which can be tapped for added fire fighting and fire protection? If a fire were to occur upon the proposed Solar Power Factory property, the toxic fumes from burning equipment would not allow any person to do any fighting. The best that could be done would be to eliminate as many possibilities of the fire spreading as possible, and this only at a far distance. The fire will be left to burn itself out (as recommended by Tesla following the Bouldercombe fire in Queensland). No amount of buffer zone will protect neighbours, the environment, the air, the land, the underground water..... A few small dams for livestock are upon the property but are depleted of water due to drought (clouds, but often no rain). So, where will the water come from to pour water on the parts burning or upon the surrounding area?

* Vegetation is to be planted along the buffer zone, as “plant screening”. This will not enhance the view travellers NOW have of that location, but will instead break the sweeping vista of fields that we now enjoy so much as we drive past. Another aspect of this plant screen is the type of trees used - will they be fast-growing native Australian evergreen trees which are brittle, drop oil-infused dry leaves everywhere as well as branches and are indeed a serious fire hazard? Or will they be slower growing deciduous trees which will take many decades to fulfil their purpose?

* I checked on Six.Maps and found the land dimensions for actual use to be approximately 2000 meters long x 800 meters wide. One speaker suggested increasing the width of the buffer zone to 40 meters or 50 meters. If the buffer zone is 50 meters wide all around the land allocated for use, then the dimensions would be 1900 meters long and 700 meters wide. But:

- a) if trees grow to 40+ meters tall, what effect will their shade have on the panels?
- b) what area is required between panels. This alone will reduce the number of panels to be built.
- c) what amount of free land is required for the battery, an administrative building no matter how small, water tanks with associated machinery, other sheds for generator and other

items, internal roads, all reducing the amount of land available for plonking down solar panels.

d) there are a couple of creeks running through the property. At the moment one can barely see them however there is ample evidence of underground water flow. How will this impact land available for panels.

* As mentioned, there are creeks running across the property with a very good supply of underground water. The components used to build each structure will be of toxic and of “everlasting” chemicals which will leach into the soil and underground water with each rain.

* The proposed installation is an Industrial Installation / Factory, not a “Farm”. The land is zoned as Residential Farming. The use of the term “Solar Farm” is highly deceptive and should be stopped.

* What will the Battery be made of? We have become seriously anti-lead acid for batteries, but it is commonly known that Lithium batteries burst into spontaneous fires. This now occurs in Australia as well, not just overseas: Youtube report of 16th August at a Sydney Backpackers Hotel, plus 27th September report in The Guardian of a lithium battery fire in Queensland by Tesla batteries at a large scale battery storage unit.

* Weather. One of our greatest delights when driving through Glanmire towards Bathurst is to see the weather effects along that stretch of the Great Western Highway which borders the property along the 800 meter fenceline at the northern end. The sweeping vista of fields covered by either low clouds or a fog bank, with muted and mysterious colours and forms within the fields, is an incomparable delight to be experienced. However this also clearly indicates that the weather is not suitable for any Solar Power Factory.

* Areas have been set aside for such installations further to the west of the state, and several such installations have already been built there. Why, then has this area east of Bathurst, which also happens to be the most fertile in the region, and which does not have the weather for such a project, and the property has long but narrow dimensions; why does Elgin insist on acquiring it for their purpose?

* An argument has been put forth about the use of existing power lines.....No. All existing power lines do not have the capacity to handle the proposed increase in power flowing through them. They will need to be completely replaced with heavy-duty cables and poles.....additional costs.

* Costs. I admit I do not know them, but from details that have been provided to the public:

a) \$18000 annually to Bathurst Council for the duration of Elgin tenancy.

b) \$152,000,000 to the NSW Government

c) Elgin is not purchasing the land but is using it only. Of course we do not know the monetary agreement with the Owner, but it will not be cheap.

d) cost of infrastructure, component parts and panels, labour, construction, battery, wires and cables, heavy building equipment, road and intersection building, maintenance,.....power cables and poles....and the list goes on, and on..... and who will pay for all this? The installation will be owned by a private company / consortium but the public will be paying for it, either through increased electricity prices or by way of the government paying to complete the project. And the ‘government’ is US, the People. Elgin will be able to sell the installation prior to completion at a profit and walk away from any and all future obligations.

e) future cost of demolition and rehabilitation of the soil and land, which will not be

possible with so many toxins within it. (Any desert environment will also be affected by such pollution but not as much as there is less precipitation to leach toxins into soil, and the soil is hard and dry, not as rich and loose as in more fertile soil).

* Livelihoods. Though I have no actual details, it is clear that the Owner of the land will live more than comfortably for his / her life. But the neighbours will lose out with increased public liability insurance premiums and a dramatic reduction in property resale prices. The neighbours land values plummeting is of great concern especially when the Owner of the land blatantly endorses this proposal for personal gain only. It is, in effect, unethical.

* Our own home runs on Solar Panels. We are not connected to the Grid in any way. We have 14 solar panels on our home. They are expensive and comparatively useless as we cannot use microwave ovens, hot water jugs, electric heaters or coolers, anything using electricity other than our fridge, internet, phone, and lighting at night with an occasional TV viewing. When we have several days of inclement weather we have only fridge and internet on as we have not enough power for anything else. And our panels are only a couple of years old. Our batteries are also new with one battery already failing and having to be replaced. Solar is not the way to go. Nor are wind turbines.

* Alternative energy supply is desirable but not Solar or Wind. Coal is being phased out and the coal-fired power stations demolished. Why! With so much emphasis on alternative energy provision, surely these old coal fired power stations with their existing infrastructure can be utilised, redeveloped, rebuilt for nuclear power using Thorium? Only a small property on poor useless soil is needed for this purpose. The best local agricultural land in the region is not needed for any power installation, of any kind.

* Australia is a land of sunshine, but are we destined to become the country of solar installations? Instead of driving through natural pristine beauty we will drive under a continent of solar panels, having "Given Away" all our natural environments to corporations which currently lobby the government and politicians. This is not a positive prospect for Australia.

* and finally.....! After 20, 30, 40 years of operation, where will all these solar panels end up? And it will all be the fault of the People that these messes have eventuated despite our call to halt this and other such installations! Governments and corporations will blame Us the people for this pollution, for these problems, for the loss of fertile land, for the extinction of our native animals....it will all be Our fault! We are blamed for pollution yet we do not build these monstrosities, or even agree that they be built. But it is always all Our fault! And our problem to rectify and pay for.

Therefore I reject the proposal by Elgin to develop a Solar Industry at Glanmire, or at any location whether in New South Wales or anywhere else in Australia! It is NOT in the best interest of anyone other than Elgin and the Owner of the land for such a detrimental project to even be considered let alone be built.

Yours,



Ps; you may use this whole transcript publicly and I hope you do so, but I do not wish to receive any hate-mail so my name may need removing, as well as contact details.