

Hills of Gold – Wind Farm OBJECTION

Good afternoon, Ken Sylvester from Crawney Station [REDACTED]

[REDACTED].

Thank you to the members of the Commission for their time and due diligence to this project. Taking the time to attend my property Crawney Station it was, certainly appreciated!

I note I have not had any time to prepare effectively for this talk, having only been emailed late on the details and IPC enquiry on my property on 25th of January last week.

I have lived in the Hunter Valley for 60 years and grown up in steep to hilly country. We have a reputation for farming this land sustainably. I am specifically aware of the fragile nature of hilly country and ALWAYS, no matter how much monetary impact, ensure that our land has significant ground cover and protection. However, no matter how much we protect the soils LANDSLIPS still find their way in.

When we purchased Crawney I was aware at how soft the soil is in this Valley and Hills. Which is why the vegetation MUST and needs to be protected.

I can show you landslips that have happened in the last 6 months, and that is with good ground cover and tree support. If the amount of excavation proposed, for the Hills of Gold Windfarm is approved the LANDSLIPS will be dramatic and it does not matter how much computer modelling or machinery you have, they cannot be REVERSED!!

I find it hard to believe that the proposed INDUSTRIAL megacity of steel and cement is going to be located on an area of land that I could barely ride a horse and at times would have to lead my horse, and I have been riding steep hills for a particularly long time!!

I understand the Wind resource is free and agree it should be utilised, for electricity but not in such steep and remote country.

I would like to note that the first notification we received about this project from SOMEVA was on the 25th of January. In fact, it was the IPC that sent me the links to the reports and mapping. Our property is only 3.3km away from turbines. We would be able to see 16 turbines from our houses – which is located in the pristine famous Crawney Valley. We request the REMOVAL OF Turbines 2-15.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my appeal, with short notice!