To Whom it May Concern

I would like to object to the Hills of Gold IPC change of heart after their ruling in June 2024! In response to the DPHI Assessment, dated December 2023, and now this latest submission in response to the DHPI response to the IPC, dated 24th June 2024, and Engie public submissions dated, 12th February 2024.

As part of the community our family have three properties affected by the HOG Wind Farm and in particular Crawney Station which is directly impacted. As a younger community member (I am 20) and concerns regarding the environment going forward, I am gravely concerned that the government is bending to pressure from a developer and not consider the long-term environmental impact this industrial waste land will leave in 30 years to the pristine – essential ecosystem that is the Crawney Isis River Valley. A number of items have been brought up by the Community and I would like to reiterate those concerns.

Impacts to the water systems of the Isis Valley remain the chief concern for the Community:

- Recommending approval of 62 turbines results in increased clearing of vegetation on the range and reduces the infiltration of rainwater into the soil for release via springs into creeks and rivers. Concerns remain that the Applicant and DPHI do not understand and have not assessed nor considered the importance of the range as a water holding sponge.
- Soil scientist, Greg Chapman, who presented to the IPC, has warned that there has not been adequate detailed design to understand the extent of mitigation to avoid erosion, sedimentation and mass movement that could result in higher environmental and financial costs.
- The disturbance of phosphorous carrying soils without appropriate erosion mitigation, has the potential to cause Toxic Algal Blooms in the Peel, Isis and Hunter River systems and the downstream Glenbawn and Chaffey Dam water catchments.

How could 17 Turbines be removed for non-compliance and then suddenly reinstated because it did not suit the developer and made the project unviable. It is unviable because the cost of putting so much steel and cement in an area that has the softest soils in the state, is exorbitant and it is these precious soils that protect our imperative water source. Without clean water we do not have a community, and the long-term impact and cost to the government will far outlast the short term sitting of this project.

Thank you for listening to the younger voices of the community.

Regards

Adelaide Sylvester



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