

## **SUBMISSION TO IPC OBJECTING TO HILLS OF GOLD WIND FARM (SSD 9679)**

The public interest consideration for power generation is not served by destroying the environment and ecology.

Reinstating turbines already assessed as immensely destructive to both and to affected land owners will result in upholding mercenary and very questionable “for the greater good” considerations over the rights and welfare of established communities and this nation’s precious environment.

This is a flawed project that still needs to be fully and properly costed, that relies on compulsory acquisition of land and the avoidance of bio diversity considerations by illegal land clearing that has taken place, with payment of consequent fines.

Reinstating turbines in an attempt to make a flawed project viable is not in the public interest – a flawed project that impinges on TWO National Parks and the critically endangered Ben Hall’s Gap area. A flawed project on very steep country where turbines will be clearly visible, requiring huge land movement and clearing of vegetation for roads and concomitant infrastructure.

A huge part of this flawed project is in a natural water holding area and experts have testified that the massive earth and vegetation erosion that will need to take place to enable these structures will result in land slips, particularly when heavy rains ensue, and in great amounts of sedimentation running into waterways.

All of these considerations are in addition to the horrors resulting from fires that may well start in the areas of the turbines and progress rapidly through the surrounding bush.

With the only access from the highway being Lindsays Gap Road, already broken and potholed, the disruption to traffic and to the centre and roads of the small town of Nundle, should this concept proceed it will be a nightmare for the inhabitants of the area who are living here for the peacefulness, the quiet and the beauty of the environment.

The DPHI’s scathing assessment of the proponent’s lack of timeliness and comprehensive planning, in the Department’s response of 24 June 2024, is telling.

I request the IPC completely reject the reinstatement of these turbines and this disastrous project.

Joyce Holbourn

, Nundle