

From: [Andrew & Kathryn Reynolds](#)
To: [Do-Not-Reply IPCN Submissions Mailbox](#)
Subject: OBJECT - Hills of Gold - changed recommendations to the IPC by department of planning (NSW Government)
Date: Monday, 15 July 2024 9:49:49 AM

I **object** to the changed recommendations of the planning department to the IPC for Hills of Gold SSD – 9769.

- Economic viability criterion

If IPC accept the Department’s reinstatement of turbines this means that it is no longer the responsibility of the proponent to develop compliant and economically viable projects.

There has been no effective opportunity to challenge the Department’s economic viability conclusion. Proponents always claim that the economics of the project are commercial in confidence, thus with data withheld it would not be possible to test the viability claim. Given the information publicly available it would appear that the Hills of Gold Wind farm is not viable even with turbines re-instated.

- Neighbour agreements

Prior to this submission to IPC for Hills of Gold, it has been the responsibility of the developer to obtain and negotiate fair neighbour agreements. Now the Department of planning proposes that the developer can “voluntarily” acquire neighbours who have failed to reach a neighbour agreement. If the neighbour does not request and then accept “voluntary” acquisition then they are deemed to have accepted all impacts.

Is the NSW Government comfortable with encouraging the sale of agricultural land to foreign owned companies?

Is the NSW Government doing this for all developments or just the regional ones?

Is the NSW Government prepared to destroy and abandon private property rights for private projects?

Is the NSW Government prepared to destroy landowners right to farm?

Is the NSW Government prepared to destroy the environment in order to ensure profits for private foreign companies?

- Public benefit

There are a wide range of experts in the Energy sector. The IEAPET does not appear to be a very diverse (gender or otherwise) advisory panel. When was this advisory panel formed? How are these “Independent” experts chosen? When do the people of regional NSW get the opportunity to have input into the make up of these “independent expert” panels.

Where is the public benefit in throwing away development guidelines that are developed to ensure the people of NSW do not simply exist for the benefit of developers.

What other projects has the IEAPET advised?

Is the NSW Government aware that the take home message from this re submission to IPC tells all people who live in Regional NSW that the developers rule. The people of regional NSW will be bulldozed by developers facilitated by the NSW Government. Your land will be “voluntarily” acquired if the stand in the way of private companies wishing to profit. All in the name of “public” benefit determined by department led group of “experts” chosen for the purpose of throwing away guidelines.

We already see evidence that developers rule in NSW, this re submission to the IPC confirms that the NSW Government has no intention to protect the environment, residents basic rights and livelihoods.

Kathryn Reynolds