To the Commissioners IPC.

I object to the amended recommendations by the Planning Department for the Hills of Gold project.

I do not live in the Nundle area but have concerns about the apparent change in the criteria for approving this wind farm and in particular how this may affect future wind farm proposals including a likely new wind farm next to my property.

It would seem that by reinstating the previously deleted towers the Planning Department have ignored both the 2016 and draft 2023 Wind farm Guidelines. What is the point of the guidelines if, as in the Hills of Gold proposal the developer can knowingly submit a proposal that does not meet the guidelines and then get it approved on the basis of financial viability. Early in the scoping process the developer should have seen that these towers do not comply with the guidelines, realised the project was not viable and cancelled it then.

The 2016 and draft 2023 guidelines gave me some confidence that as a neighbour to a likely wind farm (host landholders have signed) I would have some protections. Now it seems the developer can propose towers in the best wind location about 300m from my house, claim the project is not viable without these towers and the Planning Department will OK it. My only options will be to sell to the developer or stay and somehow live with towers that do no meet the guidelines and consider legal action along the lines of the Uren V Bald Hills Wind Farm case in Victoria.

In summary, approval of these previously deleted towers will:

Significantly erode confidence in the guidelines. Increase division and conflict in affected communities. Set a dangerous precedent that essentially allows a usually foreign owned entity the right to resume private land. Lead to legal action such as the Bald Hills Wind Farm case when non complying projects are approved.

Do not publish my name next to my submission.

GUYRA 2365. NSW

I am not making a submission on behalf of an organisation or group.

I am an individual making a submission on my own behalf.