

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Do-Not-Reply IPCN Submissions Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Submission for the Hills of Gold Wind Farm (SSD-9679) Project  
**Date:** Monday, 15 July 2024 3:49:56 PM

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Please redact my name when publishing in any documents or on any sites.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 15 July 2024 at 11:52:37 AM AEST  
**To:** [submissions@ipcn.nsw.gov.au](mailto:submissions@ipcn.nsw.gov.au)  
**Subject:** Submission for the Hills of Gold Wind Farm (SSD-9679) Project

To the Department of Planning

I write to address the recent developments regarding the Hills of Gold Wind Farm (SSD-9679) project, specifically in response to the rejection of 15 turbines and the subsequent appeal by the proponent. This submission highlights crucial concerns related to property rights and the broader implications for the project's viability and public interest.

### **Background and Key Issues**

The Department of Planning initially rejected the installation of 15 turbines proposed for the Hills of Gold Wind Farm. The proponent appealed this decision, citing concerns over the economic viability of the remaining 42 turbines and asserting public interest in renewable energy generation.

Following the appeal, the Department appeared to reconsider its position, prompting a critical shift in the project's trajectory. The proponent now seeks to voluntarily acquire the property of complainants, specifically a Dwelling Entitlement under an approved Development Application (D/A). This maneuver raises significant concerns about property rights and the fair treatment of affected parties.

### **Property Rights Under Threat**

The proposal to acquire property rights voluntarily, albeit ostensibly, in exchange for advancing the wind farm project introduces complex ethical and legal considerations. It potentially undermines the integrity of established planning processes and challenges the rights of property owners to make decisions regarding their land independently and without

coercion.

Such actions could set a concerning precedent, suggesting that the pursuit of large-scale development projects may override individual property rights and community interests. It is essential to ensure that any negotiations or agreements are conducted transparently and with full respect for the rights and autonomy of property owners.

### **Community and Stakeholder Concerns**

The local and wider community and stakeholders have expressed significant apprehension about the impacts of the Hills of Gold Wind Farm project on their environment, livelihoods, and property values. While recognizing the importance of renewable energy initiatives, there is a profound need for balance and fairness in decision-making processes.

Stakeholders urge the Department of Planning to rigorously evaluate the implications of the proponent's actions on both immediate and long-term community interests. This evaluation should include comprehensive assessments of economic viability, environmental impacts, and the preservation of property rights.

In conclusion, I appeal to the Department of Planning to uphold the principles of fairness, transparency, and respect for property rights in its assessment of the Hills of Gold Wind Farm project. Any decisions made should prioritize the genuine public interest, including the protection of community well-being and the environment.

I trust that the Department will carefully consider these concerns, including the community's apprehensions and the perceived lack of project viability. It is my strong belief that this application should be declined, as it lacks support and is incompatible with community interests and sustainable development principles.

Save this unique historical community, which contributes to tourism and enhances the appeal of our region.

Sincerely

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