

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Do-Not-Reply IPCN Submissions Mailbox](#)
Subject: Objection to Hills of Gold Wind Farm (SSD-9679)
Date: Sunday, 14 July 2024 10:56:51 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the latest assessment by the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) where they change their minds and reinstate 15 of the 17 non-compliant turbines - in contradiction to the DPHI's Final Assessment Report to the IPC in February 2024.

As per my previous objections to this project, this project has become focussed on **profits**, rather than on the governments responsibility to maintain **biodiversity** for generations to come.

I strongly object to and reject the DPHI's agreement to grant Engie (a private commercial multi-national company) the right to a Voluntary Land Acquisition imposed on a private landowner's land (property DAD 01) to suit Engie's financial viability.

This precedent exposes even more risk to biodiversity.

Protecting biodiversity is important for Australia and the world. DPHI's latest recommendation to approve 62 turbines prioritises private profit for a multinational company instead of biodiversity of Australian native flora and fauna.

Many previous submissions asked for removal of turbines next to Ben Halls Gap Nature Reserve, yet eight wind turbines and other infrastructure like a concrete batching plant, internal road, turbine foundations, hardstands, and cabling remain.

Turbine 28, which requires clearing 1.5 ha of good condition endangered ecological community Ribbon Gum Mountain Gum Snow Gum, threatened species habitat for the Koala, Barking Owl and Large eared Pied Bat has been reinstated to achieve the 62-turbine viable layout. Turbine 28 should be removed to put the biodiversity first and foremost in this project.

Earthmoving and clearing is proposed within 135 metres of Critically Endangered Ben Halls Gap Sphagnum Moss Cool Temperate Rainforest that only occurs in this location.

The community requests removal of all turbines next to the Ben Halls Gap Nature Reserve, having no confidence in the Applicant's capacity for self-monitoring of bird and bat assessments and turbine curtailment strategies.

Biodiversity is priceless. It cannot be recovered once lost.

Please take my objection to this project seriously and stop prioritising profits for multinational organisations and instead safe guard Australia's future by leading with a

position that biodiversity should be prioritised first and foremost as the most important factor to uphold in the assessment of this project.

With thanks for your consideration,

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