

From: [REDACTED]
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Objection to Revised Hills of Gold Wind Farm Proposal
Date: Monday, 15 July 2024 11:13:43 AM

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the revised Hills of Gold Wind Farm proposal near Crawney/Nundle, NSW. As a resident of the area, I am deeply concerned about the recent changes and their potential impact on our community and environment.

The increase from 47 to 62 turbines, including the reinstatement of previously non-compliant ones, is alarming. This decision seems to prioritize the project's economic viability over adherence to established guidelines and environmental protection. It sets a dangerous precedent for future developments in NSW.

I am particularly worried about the biodiversity impacts. The reinstatement of Turbine 28, which requires clearing 1.5 ha of endangered ecological community and threatens habitat for koalas, Barking Owls, and Large-eared Pied Bats, is unacceptable. This disregard for our unique flora and fauna is short-sighted and goes against our responsibility to protect Australia's biodiversity.

The project's proximity to Ben Halls Gap Nature Reserve is another significant concern. The potential impact on the Critically Endangered Ben Halls Gap Sphagnum Moss Cool Temperate Rainforest cannot be overstated. The proposed monitoring of bird and bat fatalities by the applicant does not inspire confidence and seems inadequate given the potential consequences.

Furthermore, the water-related issues have not been adequately addressed. The range's function as a natural water holding system is crucial for our local water supply. The increased clearing of vegetation poses a real threat to this delicate balance.

Lastly, I question the true public benefit of this project. Approving a marginally viable wind farm on partially unlawfully cleared land, while imposing significant burdens on non-associated neighbors, does not seem to serve the broader public interest.

I urge the Department to reject this revised proposal and prioritize the long-term environmental and community interests of our region.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED], Nundle, NSW