From: Admin

To: <u>Do-Not-Reply IPCN Submissions Mailbox</u>

Subject: Continued Tbjection To Hills of Gold Wind Farm Project

Date: Monday, 15 July 2024 11:07:03 AM

Dear Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure,

I am writing to express my continued strong objection to the proposed Hills of Gold Wind Farm project near Crawney/Nundle, NSW. After reviewing the recent changes to the project proposal, I find that my concerns remain unaddressed and have, in fact, intensified.

The reinstatement of 15 previously non-compliant turbines, bringing the total to 62, demonstrates a concerning prioritization of potential economic benefit over environmental and community impact. This decision undermines the integrity of established noise and visual guidelines, as well as crucial biodiversity conservation efforts.

Of particular concern is the project's questionable viability. The fact that it requires the inclusion of non-compliant turbines to be considered viable raises serious doubts about its long-term sustainability and benefit to the community.

Furthermore, the environmental impact remains a critical issue. The proximity of turbines to the Ben Halls Gap Nature Reserve and the potential threat to the Critically Endangered Ben Halls Gap Sphagnum Moss Cool Temperate Rainforest are unacceptable risks. The project also threatens local water resources by reducing rainwater infiltration into the soil, which is vital for our local ecosystem and water supply.

Lastly, the precedent this project could set for future developments is deeply troubling. It appears to disregard established guidelines, overlook unauthorized land clearing, and impose significant burdens on non-associated neighbors.

I urge the Department to reconsider its recommendation and prioritize the long-term environmental and community interests over short-term, potentially unviable economic gains.

Sincerely, Shawn Stone

, Nundle, NSW.