

**From:** [Victoria Vlasoff](#)  
**To:** [Do-Not-Reply IPCN Submissions Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Objection to the new recommendation to the Hills of Gold Windfarm  
**Date:** Sunday, 14 July 2024 3:35:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [2nd IPC Objection.docx](#)

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Dear Commisioners,

Please see my attachment for my submission for the newest recommendations regarding the Hills of Gold Windfarm project.

This follows from my first submission in February 2024. Our family owns Lot 22 which borders the proposal. Please view my continued objection to the project.

Kind regards,  
Victoria Vlasoff

I am writing to confirm my continued objection to the proposed development of the Hills of Gold Windfarm.

The recent response from DPHI to reinstate 15 of 17 NON-COMPLIANT turbines is shockingly hypocritical and negligent. Is this a blatant admission that government bodies are corrupt enough to ignore windfarm guidelines and legislation to suit the private interests of international companies?? DPHI back flipping on their own policies in such a publicly controversial proposal gives, quite frankly, little reason to believe in their competency. While the DPHI claims their purpose is to “improve(s) the livability and prosperity of NSW” while managing lands, assets and property “effectively”, it has become evident that they cannot even follow their own government legislation. The public (who fund their existence) has seen this hypocrisy now and the public is paying attention.

Despite Engie’s continued harassment on the community and agencies affected by this Project, and even with the DPHI’s reinstatement of 15 NON-COMPLIANT turbines, the project REMAINS UNVIABLE. The Independent Expert Advisory Panel for Energy Transition’s alternative modelling shows that all potential turbine layouts would be unviable. The IEAPET also state that the applicant would need to provide further detailed assessments to reach readiness for consideration of an investment commitment – at the cost of \$7 million. What IEAPET did not include were the site complexities (narrow ridgeline, steep terrain, erosion, sedimentation, mass movement risk), and the significant increase in build costs due to these. Another point to mention, is that modelling shows that Engie is banking on the increase in energy costs to make the Hills of Gold project viable. INCREASE. For decades, the rhetoric has been parroted that more renewable energy projects will decrease the cost of energy and decrease the pressure on the Australian household. And yet...??

It is abundantly, and PUBLICLY clear now, that this project always was and remains an unsuitable and unviable proposal for the state of NSW. The project holds NO public benefit whatsoever. Aside from being unviable, this is a state significant development on UNLAWFULLY CLEARED LAND. The DPHI has confirmed this in its correspondence. If there were any profit to be made, it would be undeniably due to unlawful clearing. If approved, the state government would be complicit. Surely this is not the example that should be set for our future into energy transition? I trust it isn’t.

Additionally, I would like to again draw attention to the series of issues that have yet to be addressed or taken seriously:

- The applicant has failed to provide an appropriate access route.
- The applicant has failed to produce accurate noise and vibration assessments, including traffic noise from the proposed transport routes.
- The applicant has failed to provide visual assessments of the Transverse Track on the face of the Wombrumurra mountain.
- The applicant has failed to provide a visual assessment of the proposed private road bypass behind Peel Inn.
- The applicant has failed to provide a photo montage of the visual impact of the two options for the location of the substation and the associated infrastructure with in.

- The applicant has failed to provide a location and a visual assessment of the proposed car park for construction vehicles in Nundle.
- The applicant has failed to address where they will source water, gravel and sand needed for the project.
- The applicant has failed in community consultation and has still not identified certain landholders for communication.
- The applicant and DPHI have failed to adhere to 2016 wind visual and noise guidelines.
- The DPHI has alternated between the 2016 and 2023 draft guidelines to reinstate turbines, but has failed to remove turbines.
- The applicant and DPHI have not respected dwelling entitlements and approved development applications.
- The applicant has failed to address concerns for bushfire mitigation by local fire brigades and community members.
- The applicant has failed in achieving a social licence for the project with majority of the public and local councils showing clear objections and concerns.
- The applicant has failed to provide any clear benefits to not just the community but also the state of NSW by stating the unviability of the proposal unless non-compliant turbines are reinstated and the energy market price increases.
- The applicant has failed to mitigate all of these issues and therefore leaves an incredibly poorly planned proposal of Hills of Gold Windfarm for the state of NSW.

I implore the commissioners to listen to the increasing number of concerns associated with this project and deny any approval of this poorly planned and unviable proposal.