

From: [REDACTED]
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Fw: IPC Submission-Thunderbolt Wind Farm
Date: Monday, 25 March 2024 10:36:03 PM

Dear members of IPCN

I was under the impression that submissions closed at midnight on 25/3.

Due to internet issues I was unable to lodge this until this evening. I respectfully request that this submission be included.

Yours Sincerely

John Peatfield

SUBMISSION

Dear Members of IPC

I am objecting to the Thunderbolt Wind Project

1. As a landholder with property in the Balala district and as a member of that community for 70 years
2. As a member of RED4NE (a community alliance for Responsible Energy Development)

My primary reasons for objection are

BIODIVERSITY

This is an area of delicate Eucalypt populations and consequent harbour for associated fauna, particularly the Koala.

Historic overclearing, "dieback" in the 70s, mistletoe and the recent 100-year drought has created this situation. Remnant vegetation patches are critical to this situation. Land clearing associated with this project would be unacceptable. This is one of the few remaining Koala colonies in New England

BUSHFIRE FIGHTING

Every summer this area has bushfires, largely due to lightning strike.

Aerial support would be impossible. For presumably political reasons the RFS will not acknowledge this. Consultation with commercial firefighting pilots confirms this

This puts ground crews and communities at great risk

CUMULATIVE EFFECT ON NEW ENGLAND HIGHWAY AND TRAFFIC—

The Cumulative Impact of this project in addition to the other Projects in some stage of planning resulting in an estimated 900 WIND TOWERS AND 8.5 MILLION SOLAR PANELS WITHIN A 50KM RADIUS OF URALLA IS EXTREME.

This is included in some FIFTEEN HUNDRED WIND TOWERS AND TEN THOUSAND HECTARES OF SOLAR PANELS for the New England REZ and associated transmission lines

All the infrastructure comes out of Newcastle and travels up the New England Highway

Combined with the hardware for the Central West Orana REZ from Newcastle to Muswellbrook, this will create Gridlock during the years of construction There is no Traffic Plan. All tourist and non associated commercial traffic will be severely compromised This will have implications also for the Pacific highway.

Locally it will be impossible for local commercial and essential services to operate.

SOCIAL LICENSE

Objections from the Local Community and From other affected New England Communities have been overwhelming(consistently, approx 80%against). Attempts by the Department of Planning to minimise the objection ratio by weighting objections to a 10 km radius are extremely biased and flawed. There are many neighbours who have land holdings in the area who live more than 10km away

Also it is a matter of critical concern for the whole of New England.

FORIEGN OWNERSHIP—

It is understood that the majority of the footprint is Chinese owned. The Proponent is French

All profits will go offshore The Chinese Govt has hardly been sympathetic to Australian

Agricultural Sector in recent years . The French Govt relies largely on Nuclear Power and is increasingly rejecting Renewable Energy

MENTAL HEALTH-

Community members are being severely affected by the prolonged uncertainty and impact on their environment and lifestyle as evidenced by submissions at the recent meeting. This is very real

NOISE—

Independent Potential noise assessment is in conflict with the Proponents prediction. It is understood that the background noise assessment undertaken what's at n innappropriate time of the year

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY—

Has been exaggerated as a positive. It is very difficult for Landholders now to employ contractors.Long term employment from the project will be negligible.

VISUAL AMENITY—

Both day and night visual amenity will be severely compromised

LAND VALUES—

Considering a lot of the neighbours live on or here building entitlements for their lifestyle blocks there will be significant non compensated devaluation of property

RESOURCES—

Both water and Gravel supplies are in short supply. The procurement of both has been put into the "" will work it out later" basket.

SETBACKS—

Insufficient setbacks from non associated Dwellings with fanciful promises of " screening"

POLLUTION-

Of the Murray Darling Catchment

The above are the principle, of many ,objections to this project.

Yours Sincerely

John Peatfield

Deputy Chairman RED4 NE

Sent from my iPhone