



**MARILYN WOOD**

**OBJECT**

Submission No: 164320

Organisation:		<p>Key issues: <i>Biodiversity, Noise and vibration, Social and economic, Physiological - infrasound noise / electromagnetic interference / shadow flicker / blade glint</i></p>
Location:	<i>Kentucky New South Wales 2354</i>	
Submitter Type:	<i>I am a member of the local community who would be particularly and directly affected by the proposed development</i>	
Attachment:		

Submission date: 3/16/2024 10:18:14 PM

*Thunderbolt Wind Farm SSD-10807896*

*Submission to the Independent Planning Commission*

*I object to the Thunderbolt Wind Farm SSD 10807896.*

*I believe the Thunderbolt Wind Farm Phase 1 EIS is deficient and not fit for purpose.*

*Biodiversity – Australia has a dismal record of protection our biodiversity and if this was allowed to proceed would be another example of the reckless approach to endangered flora and fauna. Some species have been identified and listed in the EIS and some endangered species in the proposed site have been completely missed in the EIS. Another example where an assessment is deficient and should not be accepted.*

*The proponent suggests little to avoid damaging the biodiversity rather taking the approach of mitigating/offsetting as their first option.*

*Social Licence – the community has made it very clear that they do not want this development; the proponent failed in its duty to consult with the community and in fact alienated the community by its misinformation and refusal to hold public meetings to explain any benefits of the development. The IPC has heard many many times how unhappy the community is with Neoen and its engagement strategy.*

*Decommissioning – this continues to be an area where there is no clarity. Neoen hide behind the claim of commercial in confidence contracts between the developer and hosts. The reality is this is a huge problem, wind turbine blades cannot be recycled and in fact around the world Germany and France have now banned wind turbine blades from being buried in landfill because the problem is too big. So why is Australia going ahead full tilt into the same problem area without clarity as to how and who pays for the decommissioning.*

*Noise – The Department of Planning has accepted the Thunderbolt Wind Farm Noise and Vibration Assessment which is clearly deficient in scope it ignores low frequency and infrasound. The Assessment has been criticized at being non compliant and as noise generated by Wind Turbine Industrial Sites is one of the most complained about and litigated aspects of these developments for the Department to accept this level of shoddy assessment is failing in their duty.*

*Australian and overseas courts have put wind turbine plant operators on notice.*

*Noise problems cant be ignored and Government is knowingly putting rural communities at high risk of debilitating health impacts.*



*Community Benefits – the IPC has already heard from both sides of the argument that agree the proposed model is unacceptable. Under the proposed council model the immediate community will be disadvantaged with the greatest percentage of funding not going to those likely to be most negatively impacted. Tamworth Council statement in the online documentation that they have no*

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*Increase Risk from Fire – the proposed development site is a high risk bush fire area with prevailing westerly winds. As Ariel Fire Fighting will not be undertaken within 3 Kms of wind turbines this poses an unacceptable risk to the near neighbours and to residents of the village of Kentucky. If we learnt anything from the Canberra fires is that its critical to fight fires whilst they are relatively small, by the time a fire is 3+Kms from a turbine it will be burning on a large front, hard to control and potentially very close to the village of Kentucky. By ignoring advice from local Rural Fire Fighters and other experts the NSW Government is knowingly and recklessly putting us at risk*

*Jobs and Resources- we are told by Neoen that the benefits of this development will be lots of jobs and financial benefits to the region. I would like to point out it is currently very difficult for businesses in the region to find staff. The jobs during construction will be fly in fly out with the associated negative impact of the small local community already struggling to access health services, and accommodation. Any ongoing employment will be very limited whereas the demand for local resources such as sand, gravel, water etc. will result in huge shortages for local businesses and councils.*

*Duty of Care - Government is failing in its Duty of Care to its citizenry as it subsidises an industry which the evidence shows is damaging to nearby residents and watches as individuals are forced to take their battles to court.*

*Court Ruling of Note March 2024 Ballyduff Ireland, findings against the Wind Farm I quote:*

*– The defendant cannot rest its laurels on the proposition that the generation of renewable energy is a socially valuable activity which is in the public interest to continue.*

*There is not a binary choice to be made here between the generation of clean energy by the wind farm and a good nights sleep for its neighbours.*

*– Planning compliance does not determine if wind turbine noise is reasonable or a nuisance*

*I believe the Thunderbolt Wind Farm Phase 1 EIS is deficient and as the existing assessment process is soon to be superseded I ask that the proponent be instructed to complete an EIS under the new fit for purpose process.*

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