



EMMA ROBERTS

OBJECT

Submission No: 179628

Organisation:		<p>Key issues: <i>Land use compatibility, Visual impact, Traffic and transport, Social impacts, Temporary accommodation</i></p>
Location: <i>New South Wales 0</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:		

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There are numerous concerns for this projects development. For a farmer such as myself the issue of Public Liability Insurance (PLI) is of huge concern. I took this unanswered issue to Energyco on 28th November 2022 where it still remains unanswered. The issue arises as a farmer where our current insurers will not insure our business PLI past \$20 Million.

As an example if a farmer was to start a fire (and was negligent) and a solar farm is completely burnt out. Who is covering the difference with regard to the losses in infrastructure and the associated losses of income between the cost of the solar farm and the \$20 million PL the farmer has? Where once \$20 million would be ample to cover fire damages to agricultural based neighbors in such a situation where you are surrounded by industrial land the insurance levels are vastly inadequate.

With large scale solar continuing to grow across Australia and the CW REZ , it is scary to think of the impacts on other industries particularly agriculture. Moving forward I believe that these projects need to be looked at in a cumulative nature to ensure all social, environmental and economic costs are considered. The approval of these projects need to be halted until all projects in the REZ are considered.

My final point that has largely gone unnoticed is that I am yet to see any social impact studies that look at, any people and families that are leaving these communities within the CW REZ. We hear of job growths and opportunities, yet I have heard nothing of the families that have already left properties, nor anything of the families that I know that will leave if these projects are to proceed. My family and I will also be heavily impacted by similar projects on the western side of Dunedoo and if these are to proceed, we intend on leaving the district and local community. The same can be said for numerous families around the Birriwa Solar project.

Farmers are already under a lot of pressure with heavy debts, uncertainty, families and to have these industrial projects coming into our community with little to no consultation, and no willingness to the consider the communities concerns, is wrong. The community conflict and stress this is causing to so many local people is extreme - there will be a lot more absentee farmers, for those that can afford to leave! The agricultural industry could not feel less supported, when will food and fibre take priority?

Until such time as the cumulative impacts of more than 40 large scale wind, solar and transmission projects across and adjacent to the CWO Rez are adequately identified and the environmental, social and economic costs are properly compensated, the Birriwa Solar Project should not proceed.