



NAME REDACTED	OBJECT	Submission No: 179515
Organisation:	Key issues: <i>Land use compatibility, Visual impact, Traffic and transport, Social impacts, Temporary accommodation, Other issues</i>	
Location: <i>New South Wales 2843</i>		
Submitter Type: <i>I am a member of the community with a view about the proposed development</i>		
Attachment:		

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The department notes that ACEN intends to continue grazing concurrently with the operation of the solar farm. Yet there are no yards or troughs? Will the rotation mechanisms of the solar panels be covered to protect sheep?

The department refers to the flow on benefits to the community from the construction jobs. Specifically, what benefits? We have a labour shortage now & the construction workers will be housed in accommodation camps with a supermarket & a pub. These projects overwhelmingly over-estimate jobs & under-estimate the negative impacts on rural communities.

Will the accommodation camps utilise their own renewable energy source & not be reliant on the existing electricity grid? What of their wastewater & sewage disposal? What of rubbish disposal? Will they provide their own medical & emergency response crews or putting more pressure on the scarce local services in nearby towns?

What mitigation is there for the 22 non associated neighbours, particularly those located on a rise looking over this site? These projects fundamentally change the character of the landscape.

The Department considers that the conditions it has imposed on the project such as vegetation screening will ensure the visual impact will not be significant. Is the Department able or willing to ensure that conditions of consent are adhered to by the developer? Beryl Solar did not establish vegetation within the 3-year period agreed to in their consent. The department did not initiate any formal compliance action, the developer did not comply with consent conditions. The neighbours are still awaiting "mitigation" & it appears there are no consequences to not following consent conditions.

The Department considers that the project will result in benefits to the State of NSW and the local community. Specifically what benefits to the local community & the State of NSW?

The expected life of the infrastructure is approximately 30 years. Please detail how many times the solar panels will need to be replaced in this period. Who is responsible for all costs associated with decommissioning.

Will the 500 construction workers be on some sort of visa arrangement?

22 non-associated residences located within a 2 km radius is too many.

The Department states that without coal, a mix of wind and solar is needed as they offer complimentary daily and seasonal profiles. Here is a link to the AEMO website that details how successful wind and solar is at present - <https://anero.id/energy/>

The Department accept that ACEN will not impact the inherent agricultural capability of the land. Exactly how much gets removed at the decommissioning stage? In the event of hail damage & resultant soil contamination, the land is no longer safe for agriculture.



The Department state that there are environmental benefits of solar energy. Are they looking at the entire process from the mining of resources to the transport and transmission etc to the decommissioning? We have already seen destruction of habitat, vast tracts of forest & productive land to accommodate solar infrastructure & these non-recyclable panels will finish up in landfill. This is not best environmental practice.

Seeing the impact of the nearby Wellington North Solar project it's hard to imagine how any solar infrastructure smothering the landscape would not result in significant and widespread reduction in land values in surrounding areas.

There have been three B-Double trucking accidents in recent weeks on the Golden Highway. Each of these B-doubles were carrying solar panels to ACEN's project at Stubbo Solar. This poses an unacceptable risk to all country drivers. Will trucks be restricted to single trailers to prevent further truck accidents? What process will ACEN have in place to ensure that transport drivers are appropriately trained & the trucking company they award the transport contract to is a responsible company with a good record.

Cumulative impact, the combined proposed, approved/operational solar farms in the CWO REZ consume 15,837 ha. The department considers this is a tiny proportion of the agricultural land in the CWO REZ. Are they comparing this 15,837 ha to cropping land or all agricultural land?
