

STUART HACKNEY OBJECT Submission No: 179757

Organisation:

Location: Location redacted

I am a member of the local community who would be particularly and directly affected by the proposed development

Attachment:

Land use compatibility, Visual impact, Traffic and transport, Social impacts, Temporary accommodation, Other issues

Submission date: 6/14/2024 4:23:58 PM

I am writing this submission to point out the impacts to the local farm and farmers. Our farmers in this area (central west orang rez) are being highly impacted by this project and by the many more planned and already built solar wind and transmission lines. To the point where we are over saturated with these projects. If this project does continue neighboring farmland will be devalued. Yes, there is compensation, but it is heavily taxed by the federal government, therefore we are not receiving the true devaluation of the land. I still to this day don't understand why one area has to have so many projects forced upon them. If the people in the city need power maybe you should start putting it in their backyards, on local attractions less cost to get to where it is needed. Or maybe one project here and one in the city share it around. We've got a heap already, so you best get started to catch up. If your worried about the view being ruined think of the poor farmers in the region looking at this day in day out. We are above this project (up the hill) we are going to see every nook and cranny of this project. No matter how many trees are put in place. Everyone talks about how the farm animals are able to be in the same paddock as the solar panels and do well. My question is animals are quite inquisitive, what happens to the wiring and panels? We have had electrical wires chewed off trailers and machinery. How has this not affected the animals running with the solar panels and they would also chew the panels themselves. Are the chemicals being transported to humans when put on our plates for a meal. We also have the issue of vermin control when this project is being constructed and completed. The feral pig problem is already out of control if we have absentee land holders this is going to be a real issue for surrounding farms. Then we have the issue of the workers in the area, again over saturation of people. It is already difficult to shop in Gulgong and Mudgee due to the increase of workers on solar farms. Therefore, we have more vehicles on roads not built for massive numbers, increase in vehicles to supply the increase in food required to feed said workers. We used to be able to see a doctor within a couple of days now we have to make an appointment three weeks in advance. These are issues we are already facing, and this project hasn't even broken ground yet. Warrumbungle Shire Council has not agreed to this project due to the impacts on the region (environment, social and economic), these need to be addressed before we say yes to another solar farm for our region.