



UARBRY TONGY LANE ALLIANCE INC (UTLA)

OBJECT

Submission No: 179764

Organisation:	<i>Uarbry Tongy Lane Alliance Inc</i>	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:		

Submission date: 6/14/2024 4:34:07 PM

Uarbry Tongy Lane Alliance (Inc) Objects to the ACEN project - Birriwa Solar

A UTLA representative attended the site visit with the proponent and IPC members prior to the public hearing. It was evident from this meeting that:

Cedric Berge of ACEN was unable to answer many questions during the site visit due to his lack of knowledge of the project.

The site selected for the project is prone to erosion, particularly the accommodation area.

At the time of the site visit there were a substantial number of stock grazing the area.

there were high quality crops thriving in the planned project area

This cropping country will be lost forever once covered with solar panels. No decommissioning or rehabilitation - should there be any - will ever remove the cement or contaminants from the soil. Despite vague references by the proponent and others there will be no regular grazing of livestock among the solar panels. Aside from the animal cruelty issues of sheep being injured (eg scalped by rotating mechanism) the management of livestock in this industrial landscape is restricted and limited. The solar at Wellington is a good example - no sheep in evidence. Sheep require water troughs, yards and timely management of issues such as fly strike. Only being able to muster in the heat of the day when the panels are horizontal is not good management during hot weather and contributes to livestock stress.

Once the area is cleared of all vegetation there will be increased erosion which will undoubtedly lead to run off issues for neighbouring land owners. The environmental damage will not be contained to the solar site alone.

At the site visit the fire danger was dismissed by ACEN, the 2017 Sir Ivan Fire was only 5 km from this site which we (who take part in local fire fighting teams) all know is only a wind change in distance.

There are 22 non associated landowners within 2 km of the project site, according to ACEN this is sparsely populated. Clearly demonstrating ACEN's poor understanding or interest in the local community.

To date there has been no accurate attempt to determine the cumulative impact of the 40 odd large scale wind, solar and transmission projects in our area. Until such time as the environmental, social and economic costs are properly quantified and evaluated we request that the IPC defer the determination of this project.