



NAME REDACTED	OBJECT	Submission No: 189290
Organisation:	Key issues: <i>Land use compatibility, Visual impacts, Hazards and risks, Decommissioning and rehabilitation</i>	
Location: <i>Australian Capital Territory 2615</i>		
Submitter Type: <i>an individual making a submission on my own behalf</i>		
Attachment: <i>Current - view from bedroom window.jpg</i>		

Submission date: 7/30/2024 12:12:45 PM

Dear Committee members,

When I first heard about the proposed Wallaroo Solar Farm I felt physically sick. The subsequent process of engaging with the developers and trying to engage with government representatives (NSW & ACT) to express our family's concerns has created a constant feeling of dread for me.

My husband and I are both children of immigrants who came to Belconnen in the early 1980s. We grew up in Fraser and Macgregor and met and fell in love at Hawker college. We bought our first home together in [REDACTED] and our children went to [REDACTED] and then went on to High School in [REDACTED].

This area is our home.

We chose our second house in [REDACTED] primarily for the views across the countryside to the North and West to the Brindabellas.

My husband and I both work in technical roles at Educational institutions and although we are not struggling, we do not have money for new cars, fancy renovations or annual holidays.

Our views from our home ARE our luxury, one that we enjoy every day.

We were careful to consult planning maps before we bought our home to make sure that we would never lose the views. However, we did not anticipate an industrial zone being created on the NSW border just 1km from our home. The Wallaroo Solar Energy "Farm" is an industrial power plant and no creative renaming can change that.

Having the WSF approved will destroy the wellbeing we have from living with a rural outlook, with our prized views turning into a sea of metal and glass causing glare and reducing the property value.

I estimate that 60% of Dunlop has solar panels installed on the roof of their home so this is not a case of NIMBYism.

I can guarantee that this development would not even be proposed next to Jerrabomberra, so why is it being considered here? Is it because we are one of the lowest income areas in Canberra I wonder?

Another concern if this proposal goes ahead is the risk of fire. From our perspective up on the hill at [REDACTED] we have watched many fires start up and take off (and have reported them to 000). Some of these have been in the Brindabellas (lightning strikes), while others have been much closer in Parkwood (mulch fires) and in West McGregor (arson?).

The probability that a fire could impact the solar panels and lithium battery storage at the WSF is much higher than the planning proposal suggests. The impact if the batteries were to ignite would be enormous, with at least 50,000 homes and businesses effected until the batteries burn themselves out.



The other concern that is wildly unacceptable, is that there were bribes offered to select residents by the developers in an attempt to quiet their opposition to the development. I know for a fact that one of my neighbours was offered free electricity and landscaping to negate the visual impacts. Our ACT Government representatives with the exception of Peter Cain have been silent, hidden and useless in addressing this proposal that affects several hundred Belconnen residents immediately and tens of thousands if there were to be a battery fire.

There are so many things wrong with this whole proposal it would be absurd to allow it.





