



RHIANNON HATLEY

OBJECT

Submission No: 185721

Organisation:		Key issues: <i>Energy transition, Land use compatibility, Visual impacts, Biodiversity, Traffic, Heritage, Erosion and sediment control, Water, Noise, Waste, Dust, Hazards and risks, Subdivision, Accommodation and workforce, Community benefit, Cumulative impacts, Decommissioning and re</i>
Location:	<i>Wallaroo New South Wales 2618</i>	
Submitter Type:	<i>an individual making a submission on my own behalf</i>	
Attachment:	<i>image0.png</i>	

Submission date: 7/11/2024 5:21:37 PM

I, Rhiannon Hatley of Brindabella Hills Winery, am submitting my strong objection to the proposed Wallaroo Solar Farm. The installation of this solar farm will significantly detract from my property value and the business we have diligently built. This area, known for its picturesque cool climate vineyards, and incredible grazing land is not an appropriate location for such a development.

Currently, approximately 500 people visit our winery each week, drawn to this area because of the beautiful countryside and our internationally and nationally renowned cool climate wines. This influx of tourists significantly contributes to the local economy. We are in the process of expanding our winery to further increase tourism to the ACT and NSW regions and create more local jobs. However, the proposed solar farm jeopardizes these plans, potentially devastating our business.

Moreover, our winery is a popular venue for weddings, offering couples the chance to celebrate amidst pristine countryside. The presence of a solar farm would severely diminish the attractiveness of our venue, adversely affecting our wedding bookings and the associated economic benefits.

In addition to these economic concerns, large-scale solar farms can have considerable environmental impacts. For instance, the construction and operation of such facilities often lead to land degradation, habitat loss, and increased soil erosion and runoff, which can pollute local water sources. With the Murrumbidgee river corridor a mere paddock across from the proposed site the risk of run off is imminent. The use of hazardous materials in the manufacturing and erection of solar panels poses further risks to the environment if not managed correctly. Additionally, the visual intrusion of a large solar farm would mar the scenic beauty that defines this region, negatively impacting both local wildlife and tourism.

Given these substantial economic and environmental concerns, I urge the council to reconsider the placement of the Wallaroo Solar Farm. It is clear that this area is unsuitable for such a development, and alternative locations should be explored to preserve the natural and economic integrity of our region.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Sincerely,

Rhiannon Hatley

Brindabella Hills Winery

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