



LUKE FISHER

OBJECT

Submission ID: 240282

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: Land Use Compatibility/Conflict, Energy Transition, Cumulative Impacts, Traffic, Biodiversity, Visual Impacts, Social Impacts, Economic Impacts
Location: Redacted	
Attachment: N/A	

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I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed development of a solar power farm in our community. While I understand the importance of renewable energy and the need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, I believe that this project is not suitable for our area and will have significant negative impacts on our environment, wildlife, and quality of life.

First and foremost, I am concerned about the potential harm to local wildlife and ecosystems. The proposed solar farm will cover a large area of land, which will result in the destruction of natural habitats and the displacement of native species. Our community is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna, and I fear that the construction of the solar farm will irreparably damage the delicate balance of our ecosystem.

Furthermore, I am worried about the visual impact of the solar farm on our landscape. The installation of so many solar panels will create a vast, industrial-scale development that will be visible from many areas of our community. This will not only detract from the natural beauty of our surroundings but also decrease property values and affect the character of our neighborhood, increase the temperature in the area and create a large fire risk.

In addition, I am concerned about the potential health risks associated with the solar farm. The production of solar energy requires the use of toxic materials, such as lead and cadmium, which can contaminate soil and water if not disposed of properly. I fear that the construction and operation of the solar farm will pose a risk to the health and well-being of our community, particularly children and vulnerable populations. This has the potential to also affect communities and farm land down stream from Muswellbrook as Muscle Creek flows into the Hunter River.

I also want to highlight the lack of transparency and community engagement in the planning process for this project. This lack of consultation has led to a sense of mistrust and frustration among community members, who feel that their concerns and opinions are not being taken into account.

Finally, I believe that there are alternative solutions to meet our energy needs that do not involve the large-scale development of solar farms. For example, select a site away from our township and surrounding housing estates, but we could also focus on increasing energy efficiency in our homes and businesses, promoting the use of renewable energy sources such as wind and hydro power, and investing in community-based energy projects that benefit local residents.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider the proposal to develop a solar power farm at Muscle Creek. I believe that this project will have significant negative impacts on our environment, wildlife, and quality of life, and that alternative solutions should be explored to meet our energy needs. I request that you take into account the concerns of our community and work towards finding a more sustainable and responsible solution.
