



VICTORIA BRANDS

OBJECT

Submission ID: 240111

Organisation: <i>N/A</i>	Key issues: <i>Cumulative Impacts, Traffic, Biodiversity, Visual Impacts, Social Impacts</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2333</i>	
Attachment: <i>Attached overleaf</i>	

Submission date: 19/02/2025 10:46

Please see attached PDF.

Subject: Objection to the Proposed Solar Farm Development Near Woodland Ridge Estate, Muscle Creek

Dear Members of the Independent Planning Commission,

I am writing to formally submit my objection to the proposed development of a solar farm located near the Woodland Ridge Estate community. As a resident of this estate, I too have several concerns regarding the potential impact of the solar farm on the local environment, public safety, and the overall quality of life for residents and my family.

1. Visual Impact on the Residential Area

The proposed solar farm will significantly alter the visual landscape of the area, with large panels and associated infrastructure being clearly visible from homes in the nearby housing estate, particularly from my own home which is in Babblers Crescent with a full view of the proposed development. This would severely impact the aesthetic appeal of our neighborhood and reduce the overall quality of life for residents, many of whom have chosen this location specifically for its tranquil and scenic environment such as us.

2. Noise and Light Pollution

While solar farms are often considered low-noise developments, the presence of inverters, transformers, and the construction phase could cause noise pollution, disrupting the peace of the residential area. Additionally, concerns regarding glare and reflections from the solar panels must be considered. The proximity of the farm to residential homes raises concerns that the reflective surfaces could cause intrusive light pollution during certain times of the day, potentially disrupting the natural rhythms of day and night for residents.

3. Potential Environmental Impact

The proposed site for the solar farm may also have potential environmental implications, particularly if it involves the clearing of natural habitats or farmland. The loss of biodiversity in the area, along with the disruption to local wildlife, could have long-term negative consequences for the local ecosystem. The impact of such developments should be fully assessed to ensure that it does not lead to a deterioration of the environment that so many of us value.

4. Property Value and Marketability

A solar farm in such proximity to residential housing may have a negative effect on the value of properties in the area. Potential buyers may be deterred by the presence of industrial infrastructure close to their homes, leading to reduced demand and, consequently, a potential drop in property values. This could have broader implications for homeowners' investments and the local real estate market.

5. Safety and Health Concerns

Although solar farms are generally considered safe, concerns about their proximity to residential areas remain, particularly when it comes to the potential for electromagnetic field exposure from electrical equipment and the safety risks during both construction and operation. The development of the solar farm so near to homes increases the likelihood of any accidents or failures having a direct impact on residents which also increases the severity of bush fires.

6. Inadequate Consultation and Community Engagement

While the consultation process for the solar farm development has been undertaken, I believe the level of engagement with the local community has been insufficient. The concerns of nearby residents, including the impact on our daily lives, have not been adequately addressed, and the proposed mitigation measures do not sufficiently allay these fears.

Conclusion

For the reasons outlined above, I strongly object to the proposed solar farm development located in Muscle Creek. I urge the Independent Planning Commission to consider the long-term consequences of this proposal on the well-being of residents, the environment, and the broader community. I believe that alternative sites that are less disruptive to residential areas should be considered.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Regards,

Victoria Brands

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