

My name is Anna (Cathy) Lisle. I lived in Sydney before marrying my husband and moving to Walcha. I have been living in Walcha now for 42 years. Walcha has become my home and it is the best little community one could live in. I have raised my family here and I have worked in the local hospital for 32 years as a physiotherapist. My husband and I run a large sheep and cattle grazing property and one of our children has come back to the land to work with us. He is now married and has 4 young children who also call Walcha home.

I am dedicated to leaving our property in the best condition that I can, to the next and future generations. We live in a beautiful farming and grazing area next to the pristine wilderness of the Apsley Gorge National Park. The Winterbourne Wind farm does not fit into this area. It is not a farm but rather it is an industrial zone which is in stark contrast to our idea of a clean-living environment. Walcha's logo of "Where the Wild rivers run" will no longer exist if the wind project goes ahead.

There is a saying that people live in the land for the 'Lifestyle'. There will be no lifestyle as we see it, if this wind project goes ahead. Instead of looking at the beautiful views that are across our horizon, we will be looking at Wind turbines and transmission lines. This is not what I left Sydney for.

I was diagnosed with stage 3 colon cancer three years ago. I have had to have chemotherapy and still have monthly infusions for my immune system which never fully recovered after chemotherapy. I have become even more conscious of living the healthiest lifestyle I can, that minimizes stress and includes organic foods and walking and painting in our beautiful countryside and wilderness areas. All this is in jeopardy if the Winterbourne Wind Project goes ahead.

The blades of the wind turbines are constructed using Bisphenol A (BPA), a compound that is an endocrine disrupting toxin. These blades are 30% BPA. With heat, cold and rain the blades will start breaking down. Firstly, nanoparticles of BPA will be released into the atmosphere, contaminating water, soil and will then enter our food chain. As the blades further deteriorate with age, flakes of BPA from the blade surfaces will enter our food chain.

The EIS has not addressed this issue at all. What happens then to my clean-living lifestyle? It will no longer exist.

I am also very concerned about the electromagnetic radiation that will be emitted from the transmission lines. The EIS does address the issue at all, of where these transmission lines will be built. There are guidelines based on scientific research as to how far you should live from powerlines to ensure you are safe. The EIS has not made any reference to these distances and there is a lack of any information about the construction guidelines of the transmission lines.

Noise levels, dust suppression (where is all the water coming from for this), waste management (both during construction and during decommissioning) have not been adequately addressed in the EIS.

My husband and I have often said that we are the caretakers of the land, and that we are here to look after it, for the next, and future generations to come. We have planted many trees over the years and are part of the Apsley Land Care Group. The goal of the group is to plant trees and tree lines for the beautification, and rehabilitation of the land and to plant tree corridors for the wildlife and small bird species in our area.

There is no reference as to the impact on the grazing animals on our land or to the flora and fauna. If nanoparticles of BPA are a major health risk to human fetuses, infants and children, as stated by the Mayo Clinic, then what does it do to all the other animals and wildlife in the area? The EIS has done

no research in this area. There is also no plan in place in the EIS to mitigate the release of any BPA nanoparticles or flakes.

The EIS has also not addressed the impact on our wildlife, in particular, the Wedge-tailed eagle, which is a protected species. These beautiful birds have found the Apsley Gorge and Wilderness areas and the surrounding districts, a safe haven. The EIS has not addressed the issue of the impact on these Wedge-tailed eagles.

Also, the Silver-eye finches. These beautiful fragile little birds, smaller than the palm of my hand, arrive annually in my garden, during summer. They migrate from Tasmania, across Bass Strait, and fly to central NSW, NSW tablelands and as far north as Southern Queensland. The movements of these small birds have been tracked. One pair of Tasmanian silvereyes were caught in the same garden three times over a four-year period. This indicates that the birds follow very exact migration paths year after year. What will happen to these little finches during the lifespan of the wind turbines, from construction to decommissioning. The EIS has not addressed any of the issues associated with the impact on the wildlife in this area.

There is a lack of information in the EIS which is very disturbing. The EIS has failed to address many issues and has instead used broad statements and claims which lack evidence to back these statements.

The developers have failed to communicate with landholders and there is a veil of secrecy surrounding the whole process of the EIS.

The division in the community that this Wind Turbine project has created is alarming and not healthy on a small community. Walcha is a community that is being destroyed by the development of the Winterbourne Wind Project.

The EIS is severely flawed and has failed to address many issues. The only benefit from the Wind Project will be to the pockets of the people creating this monstrosity.

Anna (Cathy) Lisle

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Cathryn Lisle', with a small flourish at the end.