

Letter of support for the Winterbourne Wind Farm (proposal ID SSD-10471).

I would just like to have my say about the proposed Walcha Winterbourne windfarm project. As a lifelong resident of Walcha, I have a strong interest in the future of the town.

As a lifelong resident of Walcha. I believe it would be in the best interests of the Walcha community and ratepayers for this project to go ahead as the benefits are so many.

The Walcha Council will be greatly assisted with road funding, road management. It will greatly improve the roads, especially the Oxley highway from Bendemeer to Walcha, and out to Winterbourne and surrounding areas. Also another reason for this project to go ahead is that they are going to shut down the coal fired power stations in the Hunter Valley starting this year, which is going to lead to a massively reduced availability of power.

When you see an opponent of the Winterbourne wind farm project installing their own generator as they know they will require backup power as there will be a shortage of power in the New England area once the coal mines are shut down, that is being hugely hypocritical. With all the arguments going around about the benefits of nuclear power of which the government will not sign off on, & with solar power that takes up so much land it is unbelievable and also as is the case with the Uralla solar Farm there is no return to the power grid for the excess power that is generated for over two years. Also, with the increased production of electricity from the Uralla solar farm, the power grid will be overloaded and the power will be cut off for several hours each day.

Also, with the increased population in the Walcha district, that will benefit all the pubs and clubs and sporting groups as there will be a lot of people looking for something to do in their spare time. All that brings in more money to the Walcha district.

All that brings income into the Walcha district and a lot more tourism as well.

People will be able to go away and say what a fabulous town, Walcha is As far as interruptions go, I believe they will be minimal and they can be worked around without a problem and as the longest serving transport company in the Walcha district, (since 1951) any interruption to normal activities will be very minimal.