

I object to the proposed Bendemeer Solar Farm - a large scale industrial project.

The project is too close to the village – a kilometre if that.

The project is on bushfire prone land and with so many lightning masts being installed suggest has a huge potential to be struck by lightning. The most recent fire was in April 2023 and bordered this property only being stopped by the local fire service.

The project is on the hills opposite the village and should be on flat land.

The project site will need clearing of hundreds of trees and destroy koala habitat and other animals – the EIS also explains that it is expected many animals will die of starvation – how is this green energy?

The project is situated beside the Macdonald River and sits over a catchment area for this river which is our town drinking water supply.

The ground is very prone to erosion – the project requires the removal of plants plus top soil, which will ensure erosion is extensive. The hilly location is also conducive to water run off to the river and surrounds. This project is in a most unsuitable location and should not proceed.

The project will ruin our views and we have worked hard for what we have and that is where the primary value of our property is. Building this ugly project on the Moonbi Ranges is a disgrace and should not be allowed to proceed. You will hurt us financially as well as personally – we enjoy our entire property and not just the views from our home. We live in the country for many reasons and it is for the peace and quiet and our beautiful views which makes our place pretty special and that is where the value is. It is not fair that this project comes along when there is land as far as they eyes can see in every direction yet it is all because of ONE POWERLINE. This is absolutely irresponsible development and we are very upset by this and it has caused great distress in our home.

There is no other solar farm located that is built on hills and on top of where hundreds of people live (too close) – this does not show social licence and will hurt many people and upset our lives as it has already done. The closes we found was Uralla approx. 6kms from the town.

The village is under great pressure and many do not speak to others now thanks to this project coming to town and throwing money around to divide people – this is unacceptable and shows the solar company (based in Singapore) does not have social licence or any concern for the community. Why didn't they propose from the get go that any funds would be divided equally between every Bendemeer home? This would still divide the town as people like us value the environment and the beautiful views far more than a few dollars – money can't buy what we value most but your project sure as hell will destroy it. The Community Benefit Fund will only benefit a few and is not worth the destruction this project is causing. Why isn't the company paying everyone's power bills if they can power 74,000 homes which I do not believe as solar is not 24/7 power and I would like to know how long the massive battery will actually power a home?

We are being used and our landscape ruined for the benefit of a few. This is unfair and should not be allowed to go ahead.

What jobs are there really for the locals? When I asked the company what jobs were available I was told it would be suitable for someone like me who lives close by and won't be needed all the time – doesn't sound full time.

This project belongs out on the flat country with little rainfall and many, many kilometres from communities as all these energy plants should be.

The following gas plants are all many kilometres from the nearest town, in flat, low rainfall, mainly treeless country with a lot less wildlife and relatively unproductive ag land, no rivers or catchment area in sight and not bothering anyone where as this project is interrupting the lives of hundreds.

Here are just a few examples – there are many.

Wilga gas plant 14.2kms from Narrabri



This a gas plant I've worked at Kincora it is approx. 38kms from the nearest town of Surat QLD.





Bendemeer will be affected by every project as everything has to go through us via the New England Highway. Bendemeer is also the location of a proposed WIND PROJECT also on top of the village and more POWERLINES. Wind and solar maps show Bendemeer is NOT a great source of either – this project is clutching at straws – it all points to the ONE POWERLINE that goes through as easy/cheap access for the company with NO thought for Bendemeer. The EIS claims that Bendemeer is defined by this powerline that it somehow determines it's character – this is an absurd claim. We don't want any of these projects forced on us by city power usage and government dictates but want to be left in peace to enjoy our country lifestyle. More and more it appears that the only place to be safe from these industrial projects is to move back to suburbia.

By building this project on the mountains of Bendemeer you are doing far more harm than any good to the environment and this project should not proceed.

The battery alone is around 8-9 acres – if this catches fire the whole village will have to be evacuated.

This project does not adhere in any way to the NSW Government Large Scale Solar Guidelines – what is the use of the guidelines if such projects do exactly the opposite and expect/ask to be approved?

I do not support this project being built on the beautiful hills of Bendemeer – it belongs on the flat out in the middle of nowhere.