

Director Energy Assessments, Development Assessment
re: Athena Energy Aust. (Holdings) App. no. SSD-36651552.

I acknowledge the Dept of Planning and Environment disclaimer. As I am apolitical have never donated to or been affiliated with any political party.

I must lodge my very strong objection to the Bendemeer Solar & Windfarm Project on the following grounds:

Woeful clarity of information, an A4 size map on the local Shop counter was how we were informed of the project, any information since has been obscure, repetative and contradictory. Then came Athenas representatives to offer cash incentives in exchange for silence (Bribery?) and of course benefits to the Bendemeer community of sporting facilities which mean nothing to a village with less than 500 people.

As for the rather dubious EIS, its validity depends on who hired those personnel. On my own property of 14½ hec. and less than 1 km from the proposed project I have found more fauna & flora species than mentioned in the EIS. Not even a mention of our wonderful birdlife. Destruction of trees and pasture for 'green energy' is just greenwashing.

The McDonald which flows through Bendemeer is one of the most pristine rivers in the State of N.S.W. home

platypus and the village main water supply. The soil is sandy and where, bare of vegetation, will wash into the river taking construction pollution with it.

Noise, dust, truck & machinery movement, road damage and road kill will become unbearable

Already there is social impact occurring causing mental health problems in the form of anxiety and depression and conflict amongst neighbours.

Property values will fall. No one wants a home near transmission lines, flashing lights, whooshing turbines and a huge blacked out of solar panels reminiscent of a bushfire zone. Should there be a fire the local brigade with one truck has no hope of containing it, not to mention the toxicity of smoke to the residents.

How in all consciousness can these eyesores be approved within 10 km of any settlement. I am neither pro coal or anti renewables but they should be placed near existing transmission lines. Since this all for Sydney's benefit, what about using the already black roofs (almost wall to wall), instead of pillaging our tranquil countryside.

Respectfully

Fiona E. Chappel.

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197 New England Highway, Bendemeer, N.S.W., 2355