

## **Submission in Support of Wollar Solar Farm- SSD-9254**

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The world is turning away from coal and the advancement of renewable energy capacity worldwide has been spectacular.

If Australia is not to be left floundering in the wake of more progressive nations, we need to take action now and look forward to a renewables future and drop the addiction to coal.

In the Hunter Valley alone, externalised health costs related to coal are enormous over \$600m per annum from coal-fired electricity generators alone.

There is hope for Australia and The Hunter if we follow the lead of other nations and embrace renewables as a business opportunity.

The need for clean power is no longer a political football, it is the key to the future and has the added benefit of providing jobs that are safer and cleaner than those in mining or coal-power. Through diversifying the local economy and smoothing transition from coal by creating clean local jobs and attracting new families to the Wollar district.

This project will Feed 290MW green power with battery storage into the national electricity grid enough to power almost 105,000 typical homes in NSW whilst displacing almost 516000 metric tonnes of atmospheric CO2 thus, valuably contributing to achieving NSW and Commonwealth Climate commitments.

Jobs and training opportunities will re-invigorate a local community that has been savagely impacted by coal improving the viability of local business and community groups.

This project has none of the negative social and environmental impacts produced by the neighbouring Wilpinjong open cut coal mine.

Unlike the mine there are no amenity or visibility issues and no land use conflicts.

Wollar Solar Farm is a positive development for the environment and society as a whole.

For all of the above reasons this project must be supported and approved as a valuable step in the transition to a cleaner, greener and **healthier** Australia.

**I urge this IPC to approve the project**



**339 The Inlet  
BULGA NSW 2330**