

# Concerns of Community Members Around Thunderbolt Wind Farm Stage 1

**SSD-18087896**

# LANDSCAPE, VISUAL, SHADOW FLICKER

- Turbines will be 270m+ tall
- Think Centrepont Tower in Sydney
- New England landscape irreversibly changed
- Shadow flicker will affect morning & afternoon light in your home
- Sleep disturbance for residents at Balala, Kentucky, Green Valley, Wollun
- Impacts on those with pre-existing conditions
- Impacts on mental health



**KILLING  
COMMUNITY  
TO  
SAVE  
THE  
PLANET**

# NOISE & VIBRATION

- 55 km new 9m wide gravel roads on Kyabra
- Blasting to create turbine foundations
- Noise & dust from construction & traffic over several years
- INFRASOUND travels hundreds of km
- Insufficient science on impacts of constant infrasound on human & livestock health
- Neoen is not interested in community concerns - very poor community consultation




**WIND  
COMPANY  
SUFFERS  
HEARING  
LOSS**



# WILDLIFE & HABITAT

- Prior to felling, Neoen will be “shaking habitat trees with heavy machinery (as appropriate) to encourage fauna to abandon trees”.
- **COMPARE THIS TO LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND WELFARE RULES FOR FARMERS!**
- Endangered species on site: Koala, Spotted Tailed Quoll, Tiger Quoll, White Throated Needletail, Squirrel Glider, Boorolong Frog, Bush Stone Curlew, Scarlett Robyn +++
- White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland is “Critically Endangered” (Federal Govt EPBC Act 1999). Offsets wont bring it back.



**WANTED:  
DOZER  
DRIVER  
TO ‘SHAKE  
WILDLIFE  
FROM  
TREES’**

# CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- 590+ turbines planned in 70 km radius of Walcha
- Cumulative impacts on everyone who lives, visits, works and drives through New England:
  - Visual amenity, noise, traffic congestion, road disrepair & erosion, wildlife habitat destruction, loss of cultural heritage, reduced water quality and quantity, loss of TV and mobile reception.
- At least 1000m<sup>3</sup> concrete (3,000t) each footing = 100,000t for this proposal alone, or 1.77Mt for the region – never to be removed.
- If 55 km for 32 turbines, will it be 900 km for 590 turbines?
- LGAs supply the water, gravel & other resources
- No solid decommissioning or recycling plans
- Who foots the bill for the long term mess?
- IRONY - turbine technology already superseded!



**WANTED:  
LARGE  
LANDFILL  
SITE  
FOR OLD  
GROWTH  
TURBINES**



# LACK OF STATE PLANNING

- Because Renewable Energy Zones declared with no landscape scale landuse planning, we have:
  1. Arbitrary choice made by Macquarie St
  2. No sound selection criteria
  3. Foreign corporates put in charge deciding where large scale installations go
- Lack of consultation with community has led to community division
- We implore our Councillors to press the State Govt for proper planning involving hosts, neighbours of hosts, and the broader community and insist on a moratorium on large scale energy developments until this plan exists.



**SHORT  
TERM  
GAIN.  
LONG  
TERM  
PAIN.**



# LET'S DISCUSS COMMUNITY OWNED MICRO- GRIDS

## BETTER ALTERNATIVES

- Large scale wind installations are NOT the most efficient renewables – small to medium scale are better options (Prof Alistair Sprout, UNSW School of Photovoltaic and Renewable Energy Engineering)
- Foreign owned large scale wind installations send profits overseas
- Community led ***Embedded Microgrids*** are most efficient and profit regional Australia
- ARENA - \$50M in grants under *Regional Australia Microgrids Program* for pilots that reduce barriers & assist development (Leon Chanter, Australian Renewable Energy Agency)
- **Lightbulb moment?**  
Let's get it right at the appropriate level and in the appropriate places, before it's too late.



**THEY  
ARE  
NOT  
FARMS**

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

- **Make an objection by 24 May 2022** at <http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/thunderbolt-wind-farm>
- Objections must be unique and come from unique User ID's.
- Write to your State Member and **ask for a moratorium** on large scale wind installations until proper planning is done:
  - Northern Tablelands - Adam Marshall MP
  - Tamworth - Kevin Anderson MP
- Sign our petition at <https://chng.it/xCnYRbWGcf>
- Follow us on Facebook at [Friends of Kentucky Action Group](#)
- Share this with others – we need numbers!