

I **object** to the Tilt – Liverpool Range Wind Farm – SSD 6696 – Mod1

Thankyou for the opportunity to make a submission on SSD-6696, Mod 1.

Almost everyone, **who lives in this community**, is appalled by the environmental destruction of this project. When people start reading the EIS and learning about the land clearing required their view on this so called “green” project is altered completely. Dig deeper into the amount of cement, water, gravel (mixed with even more cement), oil, diesel, metals, rare earths required for turbine production plus the iron ore and minerals that go into steel production, and you soon realise this project is an environmental disaster.

Local support only comes from those making a financial gain.

Even those making a financial gain still consider this project negative on the local environment and community but their desire for financial gain overrides all else.

Anyone who lives here and delves into the details cannot believe that TILT (owned by super funds, the Federal Government’s Future Fund and AGL) sells the destruction of our environment as necessary and positive. Given the Federal Governments updates to the Threatened Species Action Plan the spin to make this project measure up will be interesting reading. Destroy the environment and increase the chances of extinction for endangered species for what benefit?

The footprint of this project is over 50,000 ha, this is equivalent to the area of land that was burnt in the Sir Ivan fire. The land in the Sir Ivan fire is recovering and is regenerating, the land in the Tilt project will never be the same again.

The football field sized hardstands under **each** turbine will remain forever - nobody can remove that much cement in this type of landscape even if they wanted to.

The network of OSOM roads required on this agricultural land requires additional gravel quarries, one million litres of water per day during construction, additional cement and substantial land clearing.

The land clearing required for the construction 220 turbines, transmission lines and associated OSOM roads will devastate critically endangered ecological communities and cause habitat displacement for many critically endangered, vulnerable, and protected species.

Tilt decline to address cumulative impact, because this is a modified project.

This is **not a modified project**, the “modifications” are too vast to slip through as a modification.

- *Turbine height* is now 52% greater than original project (165 metres to 250 metres),
- *land clearing* of box gum woodland is now 113% more than the original project,
- number of *substations* is now 75% greater than original project,
- number of *permanent met masts* is now 125% greater than the original project,
- number of *permanent O&M facilities* is now 100% greater than the original project,
- number of *concrete batching plants* is now 125% greater than the original project,
- *turbine blade length* is now 82% greater than the original project,
- *hardstand area* is now 213% greater than the original project
- *tonnes of sand, cement and aggregate* has increased by 105%
- *Megalitres of water* has increased by 100%
- **the number of non associated dwellings visually impact is now 418% greater than the original project. That is assuming TILT have identified all non-associated dwellings.**

As far as I can ascertain Tilt have not recognised anywhere that there are dwellings in the town of Coolah. Yet every person in town will have a shocking view of these 250-metre-high turbines.

At our home we were going to see between 101 and 141 turbines on the approved project and will now see 141 to 181 turbines on the modified project. We will certainly see the full height of turbines E1 to E9.

What about the noise? It is common for many of us to hear silence punctuated by bird song. Yet noise assessments in rural areas are assessed as if we live in urban areas. After two peer reviewed noise studies of the Valley of the Winds proved that the developer had underestimated the noise levels consistently, nobody will ever believe a noise study funded by a developer again.

Modification? How many people (not financially connected to the project) would really view this as a modification?

Cumulative impacts. Why does TILT think this is not required to be assessed? With the “modifications” as outlined above, the cumulative impacts of this project alone are serious and irreversible.

To quote from The Australian: Bird and bat experts in Australia indicate that wind farm developments are still being considered “in silos” without consideration of cumulative impact of multiple wind farms in proximity.

How does this increase in land clearing by TILT stack up against the Samuel review of the EPBC Act? Specifically: maintain and improve habitats for all listed threatened species, avoid destruction of habitat critical to the survival of endangered wildlife.

“the Modified Project is anticipated to have the following impacts to relevant Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) listed under the EPBC Act: - 577.8 ha of potentially suitable habitat for the regent honeyeater (threatened species) - 471.7 ha of potentially suitable habitat for the swift parrot (threatened species) - 284.5 ha of potentially suitable habitat for the large-eared pied bat (threatened species), and - 672.3 ha of potentially suitable habitat for the koala (threatened species)” page 15

<https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=SSD-6696-MOD-1%2120220908T011536.944%20GMT>

Tilt are land clearing critically endangered ecological communities:

The Modified Project is estimated to result in the removal of approximately 451.8 ha of White Box Yellow Box Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland CEEC under the BC Act (increase of 250.95 ha)

The Modified Project is estimated to result in the removal of approximately 42.1 ha of White Box Yellow Box Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland CEEC under the EPBC Act (increase of 31.7 ha)

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<https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=SSD-6696-MOD-1%2120220908T011537.653%20GMT>

How does this fit with the updates to the Threatened Species Action Plan? I understood the plan was to reduce extinctions as opposed to contribute to them.

It is noted that the ACEN project is clearing over 420 ha of CEEC box gum woodland and the Energy Co transmission line to link these two projects to the substations will remove over 3600 ha of CEEC box gum woodland. Looks like Box Gum Woodland is well on the way to extinction. Cumulative impact? Absolutely.

My home appears to be 27 (there are actually 4 homes on this site) on the Tilt map and we will have uninterrupted views of Turbines E1,E2,E3,E4,E5,E6,E7,E8,E9 from the main homestead – an historically significant home. We appear to be within 5 km of the nearest turbine. **The visual impact on this historic home will be adverse and substantial.**

We are also likely to be impacted by many other turbines as the modified project indicated we will see 141 to 181 turbines. These are just the turbines from the Tilt project. The ACEN project is on the other side of us, and we are expected to see a similar number of turbines from that project. Cumulative impact? Most definitely.

Fire risk. Tremendous fuel loads, transmission lines and turbine towers 250 metres high in the hundreds all around the district. Add to that BESS facilities (likely coming in Mod3 for Tilt) and planned in the ACEN project. Limited aerial firefighting given the obstacles and shrinking local RFS brigades. If the community burns for days/weeks, it will further add to the environmental losses not to mention potential loss of lives and property. This is a bush fire zone! You are hampering aerial firefighting and installing additional incendiary objects (particularly BESS which is yet to come....)

This project creates many more long-term problems that it solves.