

Director – Energy Assessments, Development Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Submitted online by major projects planning portal at [Muswellbrook Solar Farm | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.muswellbrook.solarfarm.nsw.gov.au/planning-portal)

From: name withheld

Dear Ms/Sir

Subject: SSD-46543209: My objections to the proposed Muswellbrook Solar Farm and BESS

Another proposed project that will have enormous adverse consequences for our regions if we are expected to provide resources during the overlapping construction phases, such as from:

- already poor health services that will not cope with an influx of transient workers
- already stretched tourist/visitor accommodation that may disappear all together
- supplying billions of litres of water that will be required for the projects (e.g. dust control, panel cleaning) and workers
- massively increased traffic congestion from both light and heavy vehicles, as well as funding the costs of extra damage to the roads, especially ratepayer funded repairs
- increased cost and demands on our fire and emergency services, as more project related fires that are extremely difficult to contain are inevitable
- years of disruption to our current way of life from huge numbers of transient workers
- increased risk of motoring accidents, grass fires and crime.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I strongly oppose this project because:

- regional people are continually disrupted by having to consider project after project and I can see that our rural lifestyle and surroundings will be destroyed by such projects; the DPE must give much more weight to the views and objections of the regional communities
- the evaluation process has been shown to not properly address the real world damaging consequences of such projects; the DPE must be much more critical of the claims proponents make and the lack of evidence for such claims
- there is virtually no mechanism to ensure all commitments and conditions are satisfactorily performed; this must be addressed; e.g. decommissioning/rehabilitation bonds must apply
- the cumulative impacts of so many huge and intrusive projects on the lives of the people who have to live with the consequences of the approval of "not fit for purpose" projects.

The project should not be recommended for approval.

Yours sincerely

A Very Upset Regional Resident
16 September 2023