

O'Connell Valley Community Group

Via The Rural Fire Shed

O'Connell Road

O'Connell NSW 2795

The O'Connell Valley Community Group wishes to register an objection to the Paling Yard Wind Farm (Application Number - SSD – 29064077).

Assessment Type - State Significant Development

Development Type – Electricity Generation – Wind

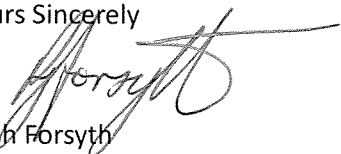
Local Govt Area: Oberon

We wish to object most strongly to:

- The possible damage and/or loss of trees along the O'Connell Rd. The 120 Desert Ash Trees are a living war memorial listed on the NSW War Memorial Register with state and national recognition and is also recognised by Veteran Affairs, the RSL and National Trust. The high branches of the towering mature trees form an arch resembling a cathedral. This symbol of grandeur and honour is deeply significant to the community of O'Connell and district. This Avenue of trees represents those who served during the First World War and is of rare historical significance, as it is one of only a few surviving First World War Memorial Avenues in rural New South Wales. Residents of O'Connell have a long history of protecting the Avenue, as it is a symbol to all of the sacrifice made to keep our valley a peaceful one. The Avenue plays a significant role during both ANZAC and Remembrance Day reflections. The Avenue is part of a scenic and cultural landscape that needs to be preserved. It is located in a conservation area that is listed as being of historical significance.
- The possible damage to significant Earth buildings which occur along this section of road.
- The omission of a traffic study in and around the O'Connell area regarding the movement and transportation of equipment for the project. The O'Connell Rd is the main route used between Oberon and Bathurst for families for employment and schooling. There is no mention of increased traffic and how services such as school buses will be affected.
- The number of errors and outdated information contained in the Environmental Impact Study. For example, the out of date Census Data quoted.
- The lack of community consultation.

Finally, we would like to request a meeting with the Independent Planning Commission to discuss the Environmental Impact study that was undertaken for this project.

Yours Sincerely



Trish Forsyth

Chair – O'Connell Valley Community Group