Argument against the Mallee Windfarm

Environmental Impacts- all negative

As a concerned citizen of Australia, I have concerns over the economic and environmental costs to ecosystems with this proposal for the Mallee Wind farm. Our concerns are specified below:

Destroy the environment to save the planet

According to current government's green agenda the aim of Australia pushing the construction of wind farms is to ***protect the environment***, however what your experts fail to realize or are not telling you, is that all these machines are built from non-renewable materials- some facts:

- Environmentalists believe wind and solar and batteries will be able to supply all the energy needs but that is incorrect- as the planet will suffer irreparable damage in the pursuit of the materials required to build, install and maintain renewable energy Wind turbines are at best only 60% maximum capture with the best so far being only 45% efficiency. *Source:* (*Mark P. Mills- Senior Fellow Manhattan Institute- Unobtainium*)
- Despite promises by experts that the vagaries of wind power being mitigated by increased installed capacity, the threat to the stability of the grid when then fluctuations from highs and lows of wind velocity can cause power losses of 500MW per hour, up to a maximum recorded fall of 980MW which is the equivalent of two coal powered generators going off-line. But there was no mention of this in MSM. The significance of these short term fluctuations should be open for further investigation and public discussion. *Data sourced from Australia Energy Market Operator.https://papundits.wordpress.com/2020/11/30/wind-power-generation-intermittency-its-worse-than-you-think-it-is-part-two/*

The negative effects on birds and avifauna

The Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is deficient as it fails to consider the negative effects on the following species including the removal of their natural habitat

- Mallee Fowl.
- Regent Parrott
- Numbats
- Bilbies
- Greater stick nest rats

Within the EIS the Mallee Cliffs National Park as well as private conservation areas are not considered for the negative impacts they may have upon endangered species. This despite these areas being part of NSW Government "Saving our Species Program"

As with other corridors established for renewable energy projects the broad and comprehensive clearing that occurs adjacent to vulnerable wildlife areas has significant

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side effect such as shadows cast by the giant turbines as well as the visual blade glint and shadow flicker in Buronga Gol Gol anad nearby landholders

The impact of the background white noise and humming as well as the fire risk due to electrical energy released during storms or malfunctions of the machines themselves. There are numerous examples of turbines exploding and catching fire.

The westerly winds will exacerbate any fire outbreak by heading towards the Mallee Cliffs National Park as there is no fire break, thus causing disastrous results within the park itself and the loss of significant endangered species.

Even the EIS Riskcon Report identifies this risk states in paragraph 4.7 and 4.8 that the transformer can cause fires and explosions but that:

"4.7 "…this incident [fire] has not been carried forward for further analysis"

"4.8 "…this incident [explosion] has not been carried forward for further analysis"

The massive size of the turbines of around 260m will become a visual eyesore for kilometres in all directions given the flat landscape around Buronga Gol Gol, along the route to Mungo National Park via Arumpo road.

This reckless renewable project is a bad idea since has Australia is already rich in energy resources and prior to this push for the "green dream" we enjoyed cheap and bountiful electricity.
Australia should take note of other countries that have gone down this fanciful renewable energy route. They now experience higher prices with regular blackouts or restrictions- we just had a taste of that following a couple of typically hot days in NSW. 20 years ago this was never an issue but now the grid can't cope with intermittent unreliable renewable energy.

Well done Blackout Bowen & his bunch of bandits

Wake up Australia!

Conclusion

In a speech in 2019 by the then NSW Minister for Energy and Environment, Matt Kean signaling the key drivers of the NSW Electricity Strategy he identified numerous points:

1. "Scientists are "confident that changes to the earth's climate are being rapidly accelerated by human activity.
This assumption is flawed since it is founded on a belief that a 97% consensus acknowledged in 2014 and 2015 by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as *not supported by any poll.* The IPCC from its inception has been driven by beliefs not science

2. "Proposals identified in the Strategy are consistent with logical conclusions based on scientific evidence"
Another flawed argument since the Strategy ignores the science and is actually contrary to it. The science of anthropogenic global warming (that caused by human activity) is based on models by the IPCC- not based on observation (this is the basis of science as it

involves the testing of a hypothesis by observation then drawing a conclusion based on the results) None of the doomsday predictions of the IPPC of the last 20 years have eventuated. Furthermore when these models were tested using historical evidence – they failed.

3. The Strategy boasts “a reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity future that supports a growing economy”
There are currently 5 coal-fired power stations operating in NSW however they are all destined to close starting with Liddell this year. In total the 5 generate 9890 MW of electricity. Today they make up 80.8% of NSW electricity with solar and wind contributing 6.7%.
The introduction of solar and wind has substantially contributed to the cost of electricity to consumers doubling in some parts of NSW and the wholesale cost doubling over the last 5 years. In 2019 Australian electricity prices were amongst the ***highest in the world***
When NSW closes all its power stations it will reduce the world’s annual CO2 emissions by 0.195%- hardly a substantial amount given the increasing emissions by China alone as they open up more power stations.

Promises of price reductions
The forecast reduction in NSW electricity prices of $10 or even $40 annually is hopelessly inadequate when compared to a ***doubling of prices*** over the last decade.
The renewable industry’s lobby group the Clean Energy Council, admits that subsidies of up to half of wind/solar revenues are inadequate to allow energy supply sources to expand. To verify this even Snowy Hydro says its pumped hydro scheme will need transmission subsidies to prevent blackouts. At present the Clean Energy Council is calling an additional $20 billion to attract private sector investment in grid infrastructure.
With the UK, Germany and Denmark having the highest penetration of renewable energy in Europe, they also have the highest electricity prices despite huge government subsidies and anxiety still exists over the stability of the supply system.
Source: the Spectator, Alan Moran February 2021

The closure of NSW power stations is not because they have become uneconomic but because of the competing energy supplies- wind and solar having been subsidized by governments- taxpayers’ dollars- amounting to $7 billion per year
The loss of coal generators will increase electricity prices due to renewable energy not having sufficient system strength which intrinsically available with coal (and gas) generators. *Source: Australian Energy Regulator*

NSW is heading down the same path as Europe requiring continuing government subsidies as long as they pursue their obsession with renewable energy. I have supplied verifiable information to support my submission and I suspect many others will as well.
I implore government to listen to the voice of the people and the true science based on data, not lobbyists representing the financial interests of overseas corporations.

Ultimately these projects will be to the detriment of the consumer whose dollars fund these reckless and inadequately researched projects. Renewables will never provide a standalone energy supply that can replace our existing and plentiful God given natural energy resources in this once ‘lucky country”.