

## **Gundry Solar Farm Submission - Objection to proposal**

**Ref:**

**Author: Harry Firth 1322 Windellama Rd Turrange NSW 2580**

**Date: 07/12/2024**

### **Background**

I am the owner and occupant of 1322 Windellama Rd, Turrange NSW 2580. I have reviewed the SEARS and EIS for this proposal and wish to lodge my strong objection. This proposal will have a direct impact upon our lifestyle/quality of life.

We purchased this property in 2016 due to its scenic value, quietness and proximity to Goulburn City. We are 13 km from Goulburn and 1.3kms from the southern boundary of the proposed Solar farm with direct visibility of the panels and plant.

Our primary motivation was for my retirement and to enjoy the peace and tranquillity offered by this location. Additionally we planned and have now moved our family into the property consisting of our Daughter, partner and 4 children - our grandchildren. We moved here from Sydney to escape the burgeoning developments encroaching upon all areas of the greater Sydney Metropolitan and suburban areas with the associated industrial and social disruptions which are occurring. We view these massive Sydney types of development and now the Gundry Solar Farm as being a negative influence on the upbringing and future development, lifestyle of our family, children and the community in general.

Objection Grounds:

The Gundry Solar farm proposal will involve the installation of thousands of glass solar panels , battery enclosures and substations directly in our line of sight within 1.3 kms of our property. It will totally destroy the scenic outlook and overall tranquillity of our property and adjoining properties to the east and north east. The consultants have provided detailed photographic views from our property with the Solar farm overlayed to represent the impact to our property which when viewed shows the scale of the impact and is nothing short of horrific.

The Gundry plains have a history of sheep and cattle grazing stretching back over 150 years. The early settlers viewed this as the perfect area to graze their cattle and sheep - pristine and not encroached by industrial or rural developments. Today the plains are still grazing sheep and cattle, however the Gundry Solar farm will decimate this capability and the lifestyle/livelihood of the concerned farmers.

Further family and general information of the negative impacts.

It is important to note that our property is not a working farm, like many we made a conscious decision to buy and move here purely for lifestyle, its unspoilt Vista, tranquillity and close proximity to Goulburn City and its amenities such as schools, hospitals and shopping all with a country feel and lifestyle.

When the Gundry Solar Farm was first proposed we were and remain horrified, to the extent we looked at selling our property, however the valuation has dropped significantly circa -30% with no buyers keen to invest due to the proposed Solar Farm. Additionally we have now learned that another Solar Farm - Merino Solar Farm is proposed and the proposed development area is directly behind our property to the West, North West and South West. Effectively we will be

surrounded by Solar farms if these both go ahead totally destroying our lifestyle and these areas around Goulburn city and regions.

My daughter, who is a nurse, lives in Sydney - wants to subdivide our land and build and relocate here to enjoy the massive benefits afforded by this lifestyle as well as offering her nursing skills to the city of Goulburn however this is now on hold due to the potential encroachment and lifestyle ruination presented by the proposed Gundry Solar Farm and now the Merino Solar farm.

The developers have stated that Goulburn City and residents will receive benefits and or compensation however in all the meetings and correspondence there is no real evidence of benefits or compensation that they state will be bestowed.

**Note:** in the application- SEARS and EIS SSD-48225958 Appendix 06\_Record of Stakeholder Engagement There is no mention of Stakeholder Engagement for Local and impacted Residents within the Solar Farm proximity.

### **Conclusion:**

The Gundry Solar farm was first proposed and the development plans matured before Goulburn was granted city status and the local residents and farm holders consulted. As such I believe it to be an illegal development which does not meet the tenets of the status of Goulburn and its city status. The developers show contempt for our region, our city and the residents showing no concern about the livelihood nor personal and mental impacts.

No real thought nor care has gone into the proposal to the point that it appears to have been devised with no real concern to the residents, the farmers and overall lifestyle opportunities and conditions we enjoy both locally and within the Goulburn City environment - which attracted us to invest and live out our lives here. There has been no duty of care from the developers taking into our concerns in relation to the impacts to our lifestyle nor future. The developers appear to hold both the city of Goulburn and our local area, the history and residents in contempt.

This proposed Gundry Solar Farm must not be approved nor proceed.

**End of Submission Objecting to the Gundry Solar Farm**