

ECOLOGICAL VANDALISM

I object to the proposed modification to increase clearing limits on Aarons Pass Road (APR), two of many reasons being **misleading** and **false information** provided by CWP Renewables.

There is more than one reference to the amount of clearing that had taken place before work was stopped as being 0.12 hectares. For example:

“An additional area of 0.12 ha has been cleared at the eastern end of the Works in association with the commencement of road construction” (EA Page 44) and:

“An area of 0.12 ha has been cleared at the eastern end of the development site in association with the commencement of road construction, which occurs outside of the current road design. This area was not considered as part of this assessment, however, was considered to have been cleared under the existing CRWF Project Approval (SSD-6697).” (BDAR Page 2)

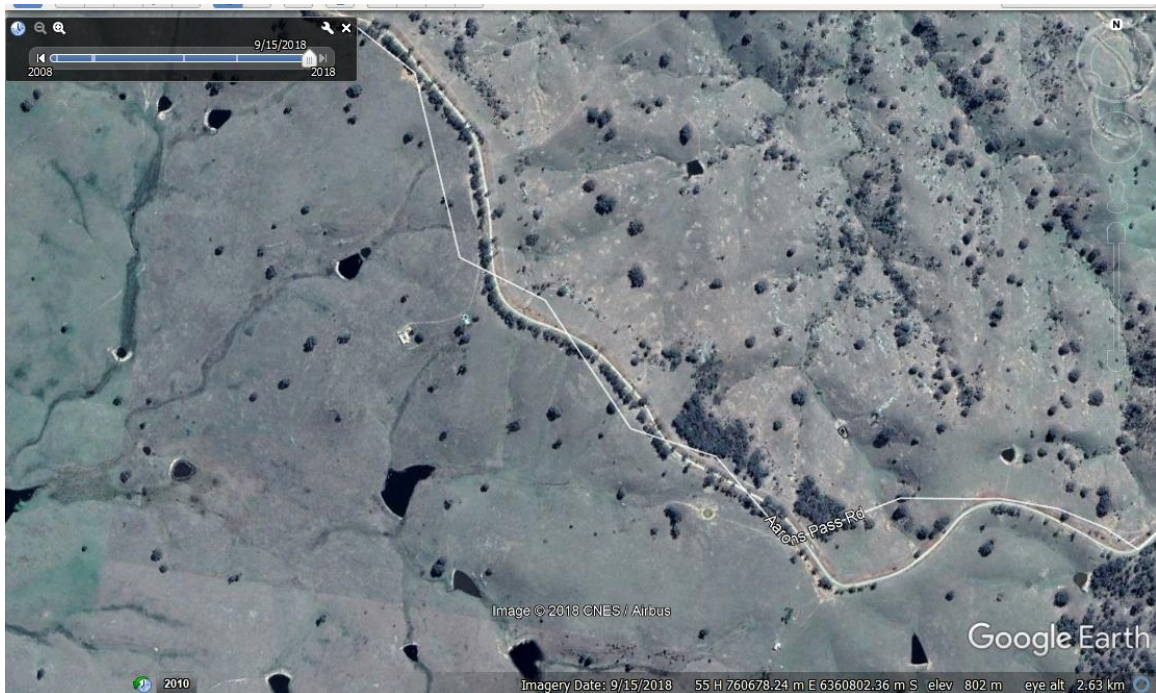
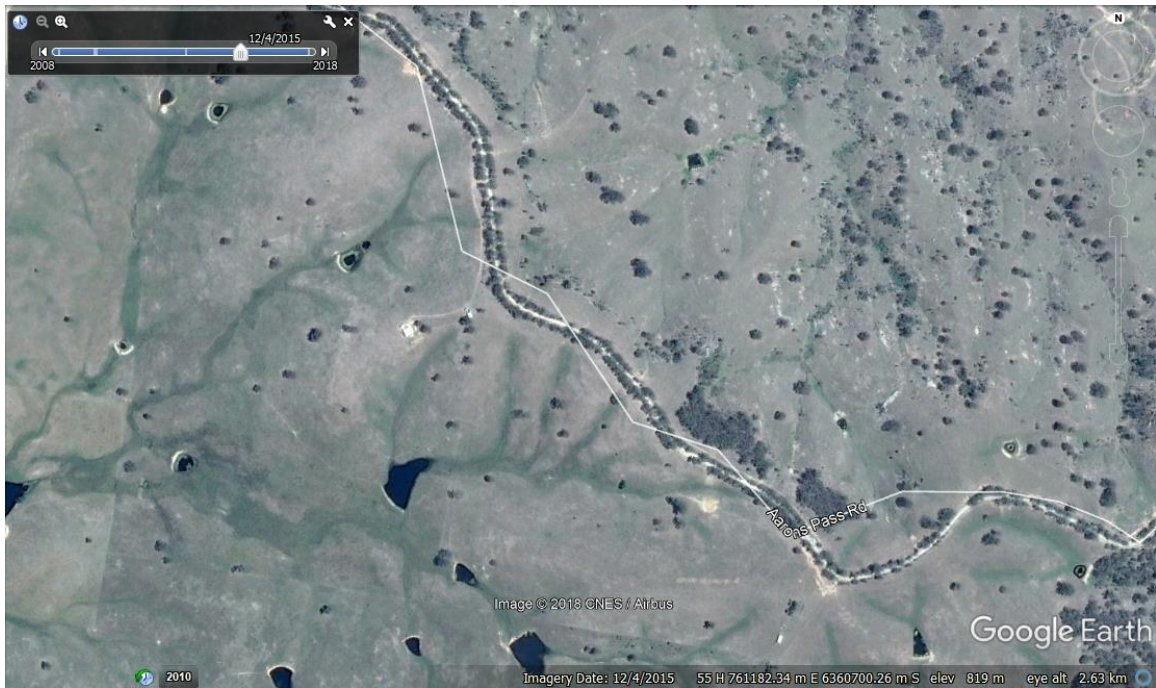
A Crudine Ridge colleague was advised by the Department of Planning on October 18, 2018 that:

“The department’s investigation found that 0.366 hectares of vegetation had been cleared from a 3 km section of Aarons Pass Road”

One, or both, of these estimates must be wrong.

If we assume the developer is correct and we also assume that approximately 5 extra hectares of clearing are required in the remaining 17 kilometers of APR, then the density of clearing to go is approximately **8 times worse** than that already cleared.

Fortunately, from Google Earth, we have before and after images of the clearing in those first 3 kilometers. Take a look below:



And that shows the clearing on the Northern side of the road only. We must assume that they planned to do the same to the Southern side, but were thankfully stopped before this vandalism could be completed.

A clearing density 8 times that of the existing clearance evidence would be impossible to imagine.

The second of the two quotes above contains an outright falsity that is also repeated more than once by the developer and unfortunately confirmed in the same Department of Planning advice of October 18, 2018, and that is:

"This area was considered to have been cleared under the existing CRWF Project Approval (SSD-6697)."

The over-riding approval document, the Conditions of Consent from the then Planning Assessment Commission, makes no mention of an approved clearing area for APR. Instead, it clearly states the location and number of trees permitted to be removed in the upgrade of APR.

The 1200+ pages of this modification EA fail to mention this.

Which of the 300+ trees illegally removed are the six (6) approved for removal in the consent?

This vandalism and misleading conduct makes a mockery of any "green" claim from the proponent. CWP cannot be rewarded for false and misleading statements. Reject the Application as it deserves.