

**Hon Anthony Roberts Mp**  
**Minister for Planning**

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7 February 2019

Dear Hon Roberts,,

**Re: Uralla-Walcha and further New England Solar Farms**

It is again with disappointment that we have been advised of yet another potential solar farm being imposed upon our communities and agricultural land against the wish of so many local residents.

This repeated practice is worrying to the affected community people who fear they have little say in the unwelcome development which is purely attracted by the previous positioning of the trans grid lines. Why can't the Government expend the necessary amount to locate these ugly but necessary developments in the most suitable locations, on land that is unproductive and of little value where communities are not neighbouring these monstrosities.

Instead, each of these proposals are expecting to take up valuable agricultural land close to the current trans grid lines and also close to established communities. This provides the cheapest solution for the developers who expend less to build the solar "farms" but then have little contact and remove all profits overseas.

It seems both the developers and our Government bodies have little consideration for the wishes of our rural communities however if this type of development was suggested in close proximity to urban areas it would be howled down.

Rural communities will not benefit beyond the short term building phase as little continuing employment will be provided but instead our local Councils will in the future be required to provide waste disposal of all materials associated with the development....where is this going to be placed and at a cost to who ?

Please give consideration to preventing this unsightly development from any location on good agricultural land or within say a 200km radius of any community. There is an abundance of unproductive land in arid central Australia, which could be put to productive use in this manner.

We request you support our plea,

Regards

Cheryl & Garry Cooper