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I am the director of Tony Williams Machinery Pty Ltd, a third-generation family owned & operated business in Armidale, selling & servicing agricultural machinery throughout the New England area as well as having our own manufacturing business "Williams Seeders". I would like to voice my support & that of my business for the proposed New England Solar farm.

I have known from firsthand experience just how hard life on the land can be for our farmers, with New England like many other areas of NSW in the grips of one of the worst droughts on record and now reconising that climate change is "REAL". Our towns are struggling with the financial down turn this brings.

The proposed New England Solar farm would bring an economic "boom" to the region's community, with both temporary jobs in the building stage & ongoing for the life of the project. We know how important it is for our young people to find secure employment in our regional towns and how hard that is at the moment, with the ongoing effects of the drought been felt by all local business's – this in itself is a regional priority.

The NSW government, has designated New England as one of the states three renewable hot spots. What I don't understand is why some people view the idea of a solar farm as ugly must be hidden away. From my firsthand experience of existing solar farms, they are not an "eyesore" that some are suggesting and the tourism opportunities in these areas are well documented- again another economic benefit for the community.

As we have just seen, our school children believe that the issue of climate change is one of the big concerns of this generation and the choices we make today in renewable projects will affect future generations. So **please** let us see the New England Solar farm procced in its **entirety** To gain the maximum benefit in achieving NSW renewable targets as quickly as possible.

I feel that such an important project should not be derailed or diminished by a minority of detractors and must be supported.

Yours Sincerely  
Anthony Williams  
Director  
TWM  
&  
WILLIAMS SEEDERS  
ARMIDALE