



PCU035692

Department of Planning & Infrastructure,

GPO Box 39,

SYDNEY NSW 2001.

Dear Sir,

Department of Planning
Received
12 JUL 2012
Scanning Room

RE – BODANGORA CREEK WIND FARM

are aware of the proposal to construct up to 33 wind turbines in the Bodangora area, approximately 20 kilometres north-east of Wellington NSW.

We do not give permission for our personal details to be released to the proponent, the public or any other government department.

We wish to lodge our objection to this wind turbine proposal for the following reasons:-

- Health impacts
- Noise pollution both audible and infrasound.
- Lack of community consultation and transparency
- Contractual secrecy containing gag clauses
- Destruction of flora and fauna
- Devaluation of affected land and surrounding land
- Safety issues relating blade throw and fire dangers, and the inability to fight fires near turbines. Toxic fumes caused by toxic components burning
- Danger to low flying agricultural air craft
- Shadow flicker
- Further damage to already dangerous country roads. Destruction of trees used as wildlife corridors during road widening
- Destruction of historic, heritage and cultural areas
- Reduced agricultural productivity
- Division of rural communities and alienation within families
- Division of rural social infrastructure
- Enforced tax payer subsidies to the wind turbine industry for a product that is grossly inefficient and which destroys rural communities
- Inefficient and intermittent electricity production – coal fired power stations must be kept running to pick up load when wind drops
- Inability to produce base load power – frequent blackouts unless power stations are kept running on standby ready to pick-up load
- Inadequate or non-existent provision for decommissioning and removal of old turbines and rehabilitation of site.

- No commitment as to how noxious weed spread by air turbulence is to be managed. NSW DPI Primefacts 44 states quite plainly that "Serrated tussock seeds – "WEED OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE' are primarily dispersed by WIND. The ripe seed head heads break off at the base, and the whole seed head can then be carried considerable distances by wind. Estimations have been made of up to 10km; however it is suspected of being able to travel further under favourable conditions." With the turbulence caused by wind turbines, how much further will the seed be carried – to properties where farmers are already spending thousands of dollars and much time spraying the tussock under threat of large fines if not carried out. Our local DPI agronomist has stated that the "bony ridges" where windfarms are situated are also havens for serrated tussock readily visible from the air.
- The areas wind farms are situated are also among the main areas for wind erosion according to the NSW Wind atlas produced SEDA Wind Business, NSW Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability. The fragile minimal topsoil will be easily blown and washed away. It would be preferable to revegetate these barren hills to help the environment and prevent the spread of salinity to lower levels.
- The promise of employment for local residents" is a farce; as the majority of local residents are already in full employment in local coal mines, to the point that no local businesses are able to obtain apprentices or workers. The wind companies have little intention of hiring locals as Windhoist Australia, the company which erects the turbines is planning to do the same as Gina Rhynehart's company and Shell and BRING IN OVERSEAS WORKERS ON LESSER WAGES. This was stated on a recent ABC radio interview.
For all these reasons, we therefore petition the Department of Planning and Infrastructure to disallow this proposal and look forward to your Department's favourable consideration of this submission.

Yours faithfully,

9th July, 2012

Copies to Premier O'Farrell, A. Stoner and Andrew Gee