

John Dynon
Dynon's Art Gallery
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24th March 2016

Dear Sir,

I would like to make a few comments on the Application for Extension to Lapse Date submitted by AGL for the Silverton Wind Farm project.

Firstly, I would like to point out that I was not notified by AGL that this document was on public display and I am not happy that it wasn't put on display in Silverton. We are the residents and business owners who will be affected by this project, so I don't think it is too much to ask that AGL give us a little more consideration.

As an artist based in Silverton (and previous long-time resident) I am concerned that if this project goes ahead, my business and all the others in Silverton, will suffer very badly. The road to Silverton from Broken Hill (25kms) is the only access to the Village and I am worried that bringing turbine components along this road will block the road and slow down traffic. Tourists to the area usually allow a certain amount of time in each place they visit and any interruptions to the flow of traffic to Silverton will cause people to return to Broken Hill without completing their trip or deciding not to attempt the trip to Silverton at all. As Silverton relies solely on tourism, this is not a good situation. I feel that AGL has not done enough work on the traffic management plan for this project and this should be a requirement of any extensions to the project.

I am also concerned about the placement of the turbines should the project go ahead. The Silverton community has been asking AGL for a long time, to put the turbines as far back into the hills as possible, so that they are not so visible from the town and also to lessen any possibility of noise or health problems. AGL keep saying this will be up to the contractors who build the project and won't make any commitment to the location of turbines. AGL have approval for 282 turbine sites, so surely they can say where the 80 to 100 turbines are to be placed. Again, it would be good if AGL could show some consideration for the Silverton Community.

Water is a major issue at the moment in Silverton and the Broken Hill region generally. We are all on level 3 water restrictions, so I can't see how they could think of building a project such as this when water is so scarce. This isn't the first time our reservoirs have been empty since AGL came to Silverton, but this is probably the worst situation we have been in. AGL say in their application that the project won't use any water. I think they mean that once it is built it might not use any water, but it

will use a huge amount to build it. If they don't find any ground water on the site, then I would object to them using water which is for human use.

AGL say the extension to the lapse date, in their opinion, will have a minimal effect on Silverton residents. I don't know how they can say that. They haven't yet carried out any of the community consultation they talk about in the document. I certainly know of people who are putting off any improvements to their houses and businesses until they know which way this project is going to go. Another 5 years of waiting around is not good for the town, we need certainty so we can get on with our lives. People have raised questions at CCC Meetings about whether land values will be affected by the project if it goes ahead. AGL say they won't, but other information says that values have been affected in other places where wind farms have been built. Again, more uncertainty.

My feelings on this application for an extension to the lapse date of the Silverton wind farm project, are that AGL has not done enough work on the project in the last two extensions they have been given and are not giving enough consideration to the Silverton Community. I don't think anything will change with another extension, so I don't think they should be granted this one.

Yours sincerely

John Dynon.