

JUPITER WIND FARM – OBJECTION – VERLEY SOUTHWELL MOUNT FAIRY

I object to the Jupiter Wind Farm being built in my area at Tarago for the following reasons:

Health

I have lived in rural locations with my family for 40 years, its been important factor for maintaining a quality of live health wise for my husband and I, my husband suffers terribly with anxiety and sleeping issues and has over the years been medicated and attend sleep centres and been under the care of doctors for this, its imperative that we live in a quiet area. I suffer from migraines and am under the care of health professionals for this. The most suitable place to live our lives for better health is a rural setting.

The comparisons that make rural life work for our health are as listed below:

- Quiet – no noise from un-natural sources, no construction noise, no noise from passing traffic
- Pollution – no construction dust particles no smog or vehicle, trucks and alike contamination
- Lighting – no un-natural light, no street lights, no evening style construction lighting

Any alteration to our current environment in regards to the above, would impact both our health, without a doubt.

Bushfires

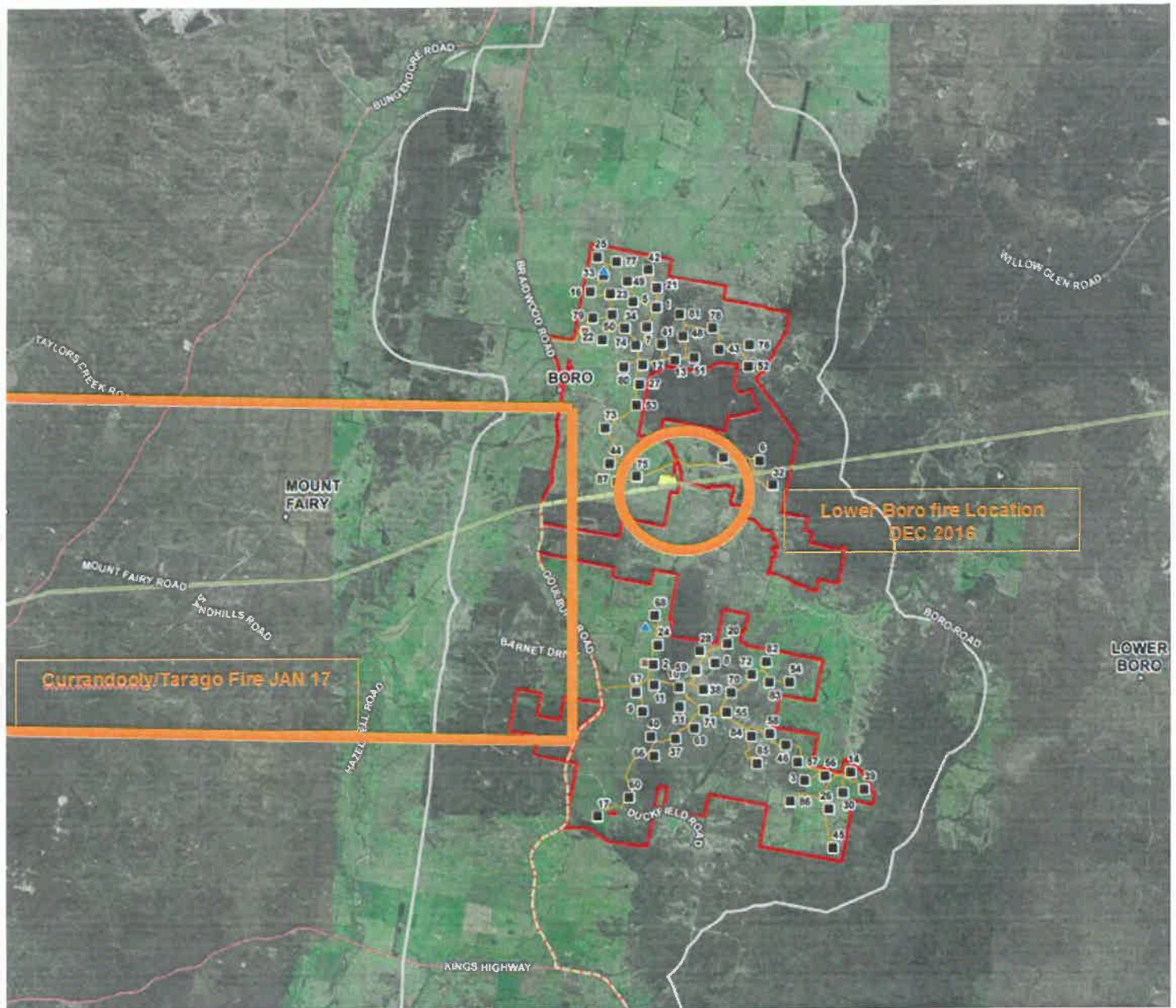
I have watched in December of 2016 the Lower Boro Fire being fought by air by helicopters and the very large air tankers (photo images below of actual Boro fire within the Jupiter Wind Farm project area which burnt more then 480 hecatres).

The images below show exactly how close to the trees the aircraft are able to manoeuvrer to effectively fight the fire, this height, proven in the photos, is well below the height of the 173meter proposed wind turbines and concerning is the fact that this fire occurred within the proposed Jupiter Wind Farm site. This isn't an area of open farming or forest, this is an area with multiple hobby farms and subdivisions and is populated, any reduction in ability for NSW RFS to use all tools to fight a fire, puts homes and people at risk during bushfires.

I was also forced to fight the Currandooly/Tarago fire in January 2017 together with my husband, my daughter and her partner, our neighbour and a friend, along side the help of the NSW RFS and their aircraft support. This fire burnt out over 3,500hectares, took a home, farm buildings, livestock and a lot of fencing and trees. RFS stated if either of these fires had reached made their way past this area (the Jupiter Wind Farm proposed site) that it would have burnt through to the coast due to the State and National parks in the area. I would not like to have risked being in the position we were fighting for our property and not having the fire fighting air support, or to have that diminished or have any type of scenario where there are obstacles that would inhibit their ability even slightly.



Image: Location of Proposed Jupiter Wind Farm and location of latest 2 serious bush fires in the area.



EIS: ANNEX N 5 Bushfire Risk Factors, 5.1

Under this section of the EIS, the author has listed the main sources of ignition of fires in the area, and made reference to 'a recent grass fire north-west of Tarago' but have given no reference to the source of the information. As they believed it necessary to place this information in the EIS, perhaps they would like to add to the list of sources of ignition of bushfires the latest January 2017 Currandooly/Tarago fire that ignited on the Capital Wind Farm at Lake George, caused by power lines on the site.

EIS: ANNEX N – 5 Bushfire Risk Facots, 5.8.2

This section states:

aerial firefighting operations will treat turbine towers similar to other tall obstacles. Pilots and Air Operations Managers will assess these risks as part of routine procedures. Wind turbines are not expected to pose unacceptable risks. Aircraft would therefore not fly within close proximity to the wind farm in smoky conditions and the turbines are not considered to pose any increased risk to aerial firefighting capabilities

Photos of how the aircraft fight bushfires are attached above, the above paragraph is broad and lacks real substance, as anyone witness to aircraft fighting fires would think it's a load of

rubbish. OBVIOUSLY best results of fire fighting by air are when the aircraft can move as close as possible to the ground, the above photos show the aircraft at just above tree level, truly skilful and remarkable to see and obviously done so for best results.

A fire fighting aircraft pilots statement to ABC news in regards to our recent Currandooly/Tarago bushfire contradicts the above information in the EIS. He is quoted saying in regards to fire fighting with his aircraft:

His helicopter, Helitak 475, can bucket up to one tonne of water, and it has dropped 240 loads over the last four days.

"I can get right down. Sometimes my drops are only a couple of metres off the ground. Sometimes they are 50-100 feet up to get a bit more spread pattern," Mr Payne said.

"Sometimes we do it away for the grassfire to run into, or sometimes we will drop it directly on the fire to slow it down."

And in regards to hazards:

There are plenty of hazards to dodge, with another pilot working on the Sutton fire clipping powerlines this week.

"It is a numbers game really," Mr Payne said.

"It is surprising it doesn't happen more often with the amount of wire that is out there, and that's why we have to slow down and take our time."

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-01-20/aerial-crews-instrumental-in-controlling-tarago,-sutton-fires/8198718>

I would not feel comfortable knowing 173m tall turbines were standing between aircraft fighting fires and my property.

Don't small towns count? Our Shoalhaven river and the other water ways in the area provide for Sydney with water, we are a Sydney water catchment area, in return, they send their garbage down by the freight train full to the Tarago Woodlawn Bioreactor, now they want to take our views to provide them their power, I feel like my right to choose my rural life, to purchase my property and purchase my home can be taken from me because my state Government wont consider a better option. I am baffled that they are able to ignore the issues of rural communities time and time again, ignore the negatives associated with wind farms, the construction processes, the ongoing issues such as noise and visual impact and not propose that all new homes provide their own energy instead. It seems ludicrous, my new home is completely solar powered, we collect our own rain water and have an onsite septic system, why is that not an option for the new Sydney homes the proposal states will be powered by wind at the cost of the rural character of our area? Why take from someone contributing to the reduction in greenhouse emissions and give to areas of the state that are not doing their bit for the environment?

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