

Objection to EPYC Pty Ltd - Jupiter Windfarm Project

“Annwyn” - J181

I wish to submit my objection to the subject Project because of the proposed windfarm's impact on my personal area as well as to my community in the vicinity of the proposed windfarm development.

The EIS described the proposed landscape for the Jupiter Industrial project as quote *“Farm land within the PA is predominantly used for commercial grazing with isolated lots used for personal cropping. Remnant bushland and more heavily vegetated areas, including the Tallaganda National Park are located adjacent to the southern boundary of the PA. A number of other protected National Parks and Nature Reserves are also located within approximately 3-5 km from the PA.”* Nowhere does it refer to:

- the increasing number of rural residential blocks in the PA.
- the affect on people living in the area, which has a particularly high number of impacted residents;
- the adverse affect on electricity security for the people of NSW;
- the contribution to increasing electricity prices caused by wind farms;
- the abysmal “consultation” by the proponent, which should preclude acceptance of any such project;
- the environmental impact, including on important environmental corridors.

My property “Annwyn”, referred to as “J181” by EPYC in its EIS, was purchased in December 2000. “Annwyn” is a small 25 acre parcel of rural residential land that is just over 1 km from the Goulburn/Braidwood Road. The Parish of Barnet had been subdivided into 100 and 25 acre rural blocks. After searching for many years (7+ years in fact) hoping to find that perfect piece of rural land Lot 4 Barnet Drive met all the requirements i.e. commutable distance to Canberra for work purposes, shopping in Goulburn and Canberra but most of all it was land that was virgin bush – apart from a dam. From many positions on the property there were uninterrupted views of the Great Dividing Range and beyond. The sunrises and sunsets are exquisite.

Commencing with a blank canvas afforded precious time to plan and put in place invaluable infrastructure. Whether it be an orchard, rows of trees or a free-standing pergola with a tank for rainwater collection – eliminating the need to cart water from Canberra every weekend, all the infrastructure on the property has been completed paying due respect to the environment. Wherever possible, the infrastructure is hidden/disguised e.g. electricity and irrigation all subsurface, buildings coloured to blend with the woodlands. Taking the time to plan/map out the ideas and balancing them with the need to preserve the environment was extremely important – to align with the natural habitat, fauna and flora was critical – to live with them, not them with us.

The "Annwyn" homestead is an owner-built home which took almost 4 years to build. The house was built to take advantage of the uninterrupted views of the Great Dividing Range, be in a location that did not require the clearing of trees but to also limit the impact on the landscape. It would be impossible to count the number of pop rivets, screws, litres of paint, lengths of electrical cable, sheets of gyprock that were used to build the home, but the finished product was worth every hour spent on it and every dollar invested in it. The occupancy certificate was signed off Christmas Eve 2008 and what a joyous occasion that was!

More than 300 trees have been planted on the property, many from tube stock and nurtured to self-sustaining trees. Many of the trees and shrubs planted are natives and specifically chosen to encourage bird life and provide habitat for other species as well e.g. lizards and frogs. Wildlife now abounds on the property where birds, never seen around previously, are now a common sighting and other native animals are quite comfortable to venture close to the main house. Every activity on the property factored in wildlife and the land.

"Annwyn" is registered as an Australian member of the Wildlife Land Trust, a wildlife sanctuary system. The broad range of wildlife and habitats protected by "Annwyn" are of immense importance to the long-term conservation of biological diversity in our region, NSW and Australia as a whole and this importance is fully recognized through the Wildlife Land Trust Australia.

The grandchildren also see this as a sanctuary for them. It's an escape from the daily grind of living in a city and they enjoy the peace and quiet living in the country brings with it. Their imagination has been captured by the naming of the larger outcrops of trees in line with the stories they were brought up on: The Fairy Forest, The Hairy-Arsed Wombat Forest (influenced by Roy and HG and the 2000 Olympic Games held in Sydney) and last but not least, The Werewolf Forest.

That will all change if EPYC's industrial wind turbine development goes ahead. The uninterrupted view of the Great Dividing Range will be lost. The peace and quiet will be lost, wildlife will suffer and the value of my small piece of heaven will be devalued.

In EYPC's EIS, the impact of wind turbines on my home has been rated as "High" and even after their mitigation strategy, it is rated as "Moderate/High". The closest turbine is less than 2km from my home in direct view. A further 11 turbines are within a 2-3km range, another 8 in the 3-4km range and a further 8 in the 4-5km range.

The thought of seeing 173M tall wind turbines every time I look out my windows, step outside my door and wander around my property or driving to/from my property fills me with despair as that will be all I will see. That thought sickens me. Nothing EPYC or its consultants offer up will mitigate how these industrial monstrosities will impact me and my family. No mitigation strategy will reduce the impact of viewing approximately 28 industrial monstrosities within close range of my home or during the daily activities on my entire property.

I implore the PAC, the Department of Planning - and should the EIS need to go to the Land and Environment Court - to reject EPYC's proposal in a rural residential zoned area where the impact will be felt by me, my family and many of my neighbours.