

To date we the public have yet to see a planned approach from both State & Federal governments regarding the transition of our electricity grid from fossil fuel to renewables.

The headlong rush without the due diligence has resulted in the instability of the South Australian power sector & ever increasing power costs. Finally electricity security is having to be factored in as a prime consideration of any further changes to the grid.

If the Government is going to take the authority away from local councils to make decisions appropriate to their region by declaring these projects as “State Significant” then they need to be ensuring that they can openly demonstrate the transparency of all such proposals as being truly fit for purpose.

Where is the strategic plan that has considered how & where renewables will be added to the national grid? Where is the risk assessment? Where is the Return on Investment (ROI) analysis of the project? Where is the benefits analysis? Where is the Post Implementation Review of other such Major Developments (Wind Farms in Australia) to ensure they realised ALL the benefits being claimed?

Why is it that the public can ask these questions & the Department of Planning is unable to provide a evidence based response. Where are the factual & tangible reports demonstrating the success of the other Renewable projects implementations done to date?

Gullen Range should have been the catalyst for the Department of Planning to ensure they judge the proposal on the merit of benefit to Australians with real empirical data collected from other such projects.

I object for ALL the reasons I have raised for other such projects, including those listed below:

The proposal is for 88 wind turbines, 173 metres high. Tell me any other structure within Rural residential settings that compare in height. This is grossly out of scale & under no circumstance can be claimed to be anything other than industrialisation on a grand scale.

BUSHFIRE risk

- Turbines will impact on the flight path of aerial firefighting support
- The toxicity if the blades catch on fire
- Flammable liquids contained in the nacelle

Impact on Residents

- the impact on people living in the area
 - The Department says that this proposal is at the "highest" level in terms of the number of residences that would be impacted.

Impact on NSW electricity security

- the adverse effect on electricity security for the people of NSW
- the contribution to increasing electricity prices caused by wind farms

Abysmal “consultation” by developer

- the abysmal “consultation” by the proponent, which should preclude acceptance of any such project

Environmental Impact

- The proposed wind farm will have a substantial adverse impact on the natural environment and on fauna.
- The NSW Government recognises that most wind farms will disrupt the environment where they are located. It is common for the Government to accept a nonsense proposal that the developer promises to set aside another block of land, which was never going to be altered in any case, and promise that block will be undisturbed.
- Jupiter interferes with several habitat corridors, i.e. corridors via which fauna have historically moved through the area, either heading towards the coast and back, or in other directions. These are critical to the lifecycle of those fauna.

Serious traffic hazards

Serious traffic hazards as many huge transports take over narrow local roads. During construction, over several years, there is a massive increase in industrial traffic, hauling big construction equipment; materials for the massive concrete foundations, other building materials and of course the turbines, their towers and blades.

Decommissioning

The Department has acknowledged that it is the responsibility of the host land owner to ensure they have decommissioning conditions written into their contracts. Should these \$2 companies walk away from said responsibility with no assets for the hosts to have comeback on, what will the Government do?

Does the burden fall back on the host to meet the decommissioning costs? What assurance do neighbours have? What assurance does the public have that the farms will be decommissioned & the environment restored to a pre wind farm state?