

Planning Services

Department of Planning and Environment

GPO Box 39, SYDNEY, NSW, 2001

Attention: Executive Director – Resource Assessments & Business Systems

Re: Jupiter Wind Farm Project Application – Application Number SSD 13_6277

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal by EPYC Pty Ltd, Jupiter Wind Farm.

Like many others in the farming communities of the Southern Tablelands I am tired of the constant battle to bring companies like EPYC Pty Ltd to task on proposals that are inadequate, inappropriate and inaccurate. Like many other companies EPYC Pty Ltd have not adequately consulted with the affected communities, in this case in particular the people of Tarago, Lake Bathurst and Bungendore. Like many others I have not read the hundreds of pages of the Environmental Impact Statement due to the size and constant duplication on information in the proposal.

Like many others I am amazed that this proposal could have gone as far as it has when the proposal consists of 88 wind turbines of approximately 173 metres tall squeezed into an area that has 140 dwellings within 3km's identified in the EIS. These people, along with those living in the 250 residences with 5km's, are living and travelling in the area every day, and will be trying to live with the noise and increased traffic for many years to come. It is only 5km's from the village of Tarago and 18km's from the town of Bungendore and will be a dangerous distraction along the already treacherous 2 lane Kings Highway! The EIS states that Shadow Flicker exceeds recommended limits to 11 dwellings. This is not to be taken lightly, and has the shadow flicker from the Kings Highway been assessed.

Like many others I am dismayed at the many opportunities these 'Renewable Energy' companies have at trying to convince the Department of Planning and the Department of Environment and Heritage when it is clear approval cannot be justified in environmentally sensitive areas. The proposed WF is north of, and adjoining the Tallaganda National Park and will have a substantial adverse impact on the natural environment and on fauna in the area. Jupiter WF 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. Setting aside another plot of land does nothing to offset the obstruction of a habitat corridor which basically destroys the corridor or uses it to direct avifauna into turbines for their destruction.

The photo Photo E.1 – Typical landscape of the project area – is laughable. Wonderful photo of a Serrated Tussock plant. If this is the typical landscape then what is to be done to ensure this noxious weed is not spread throughout the entire district by machinery and travelling vehicles.

Section E3, page 22 states 'There are no major development within or adjacent to the PA'. Again this is laughable as the operating Capital WF and Woodlawn WF's are very close to the proposed Jupiter WF 13km's and 6km's respectively. E14, page 33 – Cumulative Impact – states 'the Project may however, slightly increase the perceived density of Wind Farm Development with the area of the Southern Tablelands'. The Department of Planning is aware of the huge number of turbines operating, approved and planned and surely recognise that this is not a slightly increased perception.

As is obvious I have not, and cannot, read the entire EIS document and trust that others have been able to alert the Department of Planning and the Department of Environment and Heritage to other areas that show the inadequacies of this document and reasons why this proposal should be refused. The information and maps within the document do not give a true indication of the size of the proposal, distances to homes, towns and villages, and the studies and papers within the document are all outdated. Even the name 'Jupiter Wind Farm' is deceptive. Who is to know that it is actually 5km's from the village of Tarago.

There has not been adequate information and consultation with those who will be affected even though the planning for this development has been going on for several years.

I urge the Department to reject this proposal in any form as I believe EPYC Pty Ltd have not been able to demonstrate a positive outcome for the residents of Tarago, Bungendore and surrounding communities, the flora and fauna surrounding the project area, or the benefits of this project to the world as a whole.

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