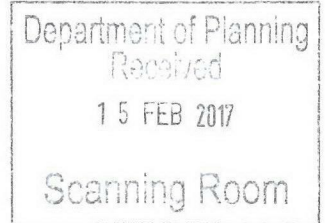


Mr Jim Moore & Lynda Knapman  
960 Boro Road  
BORO NSW 2622



1<sup>st</sup> February 2017

The Secretary  
Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001



**Subject: Proposed Jupiter Wind Farm in the Tarago Area NSW**

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to our previous written objection made in March 2016 (copy attached), we would like to submit additional objections to the above mentioned project:

1. Environmental impact (studies)- What are the CO2 savings compared to amount of CO2 sacrificed to build and install the turbines. While savings are calculated on a pa basis, I do understand that the sacrificed CO2 emissions are a one off. I would like to know what the pay off is?
2. I believe the turbines are being sourced from overseas, costing an enormous amount to manufacture, transport over sea and land, import (duties etc) and then set up and maintain. All of this is being heavily subsidised by our Government at an enormous cost to the Australian people who use electricity from the grid. Upon speaking with an EPYC employee, I was informed that it only takes 6 to 9 months to pay back their set up costs. With a healthy return on their investment like that, they are certainly making a lot of money from the sale of electricity from the wind farm. Not knowing the exact figures, it seems to me that wind farms in general are being heavily subsidised to set up then once working, the only return on this 'investment' by the Australian Government is in the form of a minimalised tax and the rest goes overseas to the foreign directors/owners. One could argue that they also supply electricity to the power companies but this is at a vastly inflated price which is then passed onto the user. The figures are heavily weighted to give the wind farms a hefty profit with the only costs being the start up costs to actually get permission to build the farm.
3. We already have an under utilised resource in all of the roofs in our cities and towns, why not spend the wind farm 'set up' funds on putting solar panels on all of these rooves, feeding the power into the grid and ultimately being able to give a better price for electricity as well as keeping the 'investment' money in the country.
4. Are the turbines made of Australian steel? If not, why not? This should be a prerequisite to having these turbines in the country at all.
5. The number of people being impacted in the Tarago area is said to be the highest in NSW.
6. Employment 'opportunities' during and after proposed construction: Most of the construction employment would be highly skilled specific to the nature of the project while others not so skilled might be sourced from the local area. The construction period will only last a short



sound, the total sound pressure level at a particular location is affected by the sequence of the arrival of the sound. It is *not yet possible to predict the complex and highly variable characteristics of wind farm noise (eg amplitude modulation)*.

11. Asbestos, nicotine, lead based paints, noise levels of machinery in a working environment, CO2 emissions and various pollutants from factories etc all have been supported in the past by Government authorities until they were found to be enormously detrimental to human health. Just recently the Irish court system, using a similar system to ours, has awarded costs of several millions of dollars for punitive damages caused by wind farms. Apparently those turbines were less than half as powerful as those proposed in the Jupiter project.
12. Property valuations:
  - i) Wind farms are not in the business of buying properties for their wind farms but they could buy them to silence any prospective complainant at the 'agreed' valuation and *perhaps* sell them at a later date after the wind farm is developed albeit at a supposed loss BUT that loss is nothing compared to the profits from the wind farm. (Call that an investment by-product.)
  - ii) If a host operator wants or needs to sell the property, it would be hard or nearly impossible to sell to any buyer wanting 'quiet solitude' so would have to be sold at an agreed value to the wind farm or not be able to sell it at all. The value, if not agreed to between the parties, would have to go to a tribunal which would ostensibly be at the 'market' value plus a percentage - whatever is stated in the contract between the original parties.
13. The dynamic of the areas along the electrical corridors running throughout the country will be changed forever due to the wind farms affects on the land along these strips. These 'strips' would eventually be uninhabitable and therefore a major loss to the communities of those areas, in effect a 'community desert'.
14. While the argument that all host properties would be worth more because of the payments made to the host per turbine, eg \$10,000 pa, so 5 turbines should generate \$50,000 pa less tax, it does not necessarily ring true if one looks at who buys the land. The value of the property wouldn't necessarily go up by that amount although that is how it is portrayed by the pro wind farm people, especially if the purchaser is the wind farm.
15. The prospect of the turbines being enlarged up to an extra 40 metres above the originally applied for height; ie 173 metres up to 200 metres, is a very real one. In the past most developers put in an amendment to the height after the wind farm is approved, and this amendment has been approved by the authorities without any further consultation with the communities. The increased height affects the noise amongst other things.
16. As with the wide use of asbestos and cigarette smoking, the government and health authorities dismissed all evidence of detrimental effects on human health as nonsense because of it's policies and the income from them, and therefore didn't or wouldn't take into account how bad they were for the public. This is the same for wind farms and the environmental impact (costs both dollars and noise), health and visual impacts that they have on communities close by. *There hasn't been enough evidence to convince me that they are safe.* All authorities in the industry purport to rely on the advice from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), yet it in fact says, in careful scientific language, that it is not sure and has



"commissioned research into possible harmful effects". Industry advocates twist these statements to claim there is NO HARMFUL effect. The NHMRC says that it is impossible to accurately model wind farm noise but officials in the Department of Planning are happy to accept "models" that claim to do what the NHMRC says is impossible. If they didn't accept that "modelling", they could not approve wind farms. Apparently wholly independent noise monitoring finds breaches of government noise requirements, *contrary to prior "modelling"*. According to certain studies, about half of the 8 residences monitored, each for only about one week, had breaches of various guidelines (SA EPA (2009) plus European guidelines).

I would also like to reiterate that we personally do not want the wind farm in our area because of the detrimental affects of, apart from the above mentioned points, but particularly the aesthetics of the area and noise factors. We came to this area years ago to seek out a quieter life away from the trappings of city life and to reduce our footprint on the earth only to have that 'quiet solitude' threatened by the adverse affects of this wind farm. While we are further away from the turbines than is prescribed to be affected by the noise, we can already hear the noise of wind coming along the valley to our place for about 1 minute or more before it actually arrives. So the noise of the turbines, being relentless and ongoing, would carry along the valley to our place thereby affecting both our sleep and 'quiet solitude'. Computer models do not take this into consideration.

**CAN THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING PERSONALLY GUARANTEE IN WRITING THAT THERE WILL BE NO ILL EFFECTS SUFFERED BY ANYONE FROM ANY WIND FARMS-PROPOSED OR EXISTING?**

If the Minister can undertake such a guarantee we would like it published and tabled in Parliament.

All of the above mentioned points are important arguments against all wind farms, not just the Jupiter Wind Farm, although we strongly object to the current proposal being accepted.

Yours sincerely



Jim Moore and Lynda Knapman  
jimlyndaknapman@gmail.com

John Barilaro – Local Member

Louise Wakefield – Goulburn Council Representative

Belinda Hogarth-Boyd – Queanbeyan/Pallerang Council Representative

Plus HAROLD MP

COPY

Mr J Moore & Ms L Knapman  
960 Boro Road  
BORO NSW 2622

Pru Goward MP  
PO Box 168  
GOULBURN SW 2580

**Subject:** EPYC and the Jupiter Wind Farm project near Tarago NSW

Dear Ms Pru Goward

We are writing to make our objections known to you with regards to the proposed Jupiter Wind Farm project. We understand that the current proposal has been rejected by the Department of Planning and Environment on the grounds that the proposal had:

- not adequately assessed the visual or noise impacts of the project, as required by government guidelines;
- not undertaken sufficient consultation with local residents about measures to reduce impacts of the wind farm, particularly with regard to visual impacts, and
- not fully considered the compatibility of the project with local planning controls and the emerging rural-residential nature of the area.

Please note that we concur entirely with this rejection, having lived and do still reside in this area along Boro Road, and wish to continue to live in this pristine landscape for years into our future.

Some 16 years ago we bought a small acreage to escape the stress and fast pace of the city (Sydney), live off the grid and enjoy a life relatively free of the encumbrances of the modern age. We built a small house, installing solar panels, water tanks, dams, etc to assist with our mission. We have lived a very peaceful and satisfying existence since then and wish to continue along those lines. We chose this area which afforded us a particular lifestyle, and a choice to minimise our footprint on the earth.

The proposed wind farm in the Tarago area will impact negatively upon our peaceful existence both visually, commercially and morally. We had a visit last year from the EPYC people letting us know where the turbines will be in our line of sight. We planned and built the house to take advantage of the view and, although they will appear to be some distance away, these turbines will still show up quite significantly on our horizon within our view over the valley.

We have been informed that the turbines being used in this proposed Jupiter Wind Farm will be significantly larger than any others in use at the moment. Nearly 100 of these enormous turbines throughout this tiny area will greatly impact visually as well as on the value of our land, degrading the prices and the land itself. As can be seen on a map of the area encompassing the wind farm project and surrounding land, many, many wind turbines will be seen everywhere from any position along the roads servicing all of the properties. It will almost represent a 'forest' of turbines- not a sight to be relished by any



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prospective buyers or indeed existing residents. Please refer to maps on the CCC (Community Consultative Committee) website: [ccc@rajwt.com](mailto:ccc@rajwt.com) - this being a committee formed to ensure that our community is properly and thoroughly consulted. The map shows hundreds of properties impacted by the proposed wind farm.

Also, in the unfortunate event that this project does eventuate (heaven forbid!), the existing Boro Road will be utilised as an access road to some of the turbines for both installation and servicing. This is currently a gravel road and with a marked increase in use will deteriorate at a greater rate than it does at present. Who will pay for the increased upkeep of the one and only access road to all of the properties along it?

What will happen if the EPYC or, more importantly, the owner of the Jupiter Wind Farm (or whatever its called if it goes ahead) becomes financially unviable, when the decommissioning and removal of the turbines becomes necessary? Apparently, under the current legal framework it will become the responsibility of the land owner to decommission and remove them. This is an intolerable situation and should be part of the considerations when analysing all aspects of this project when and if it is re-presented to the Department.

As we live, happily, on solar power alone, we have no need for electricity from the grid and therefore should not be subjected to the sight and affects of these over-sized wind turbines as per the proposal. We should not be negatively impacted by a mode of electricity production that only benefits the city and/or large users of the electricity grid, hundreds of kilometres away, with little or no benefit to us. Why should we have our lifestyles diminished by the effect of this proposed wind farm and thereby, having to 'pay' to provide electricity to those who are totally oblivious to our plight?

I would like to reiterate that the area around Tarago designated by the EPYC as being suitable for their proposed wind farm project, is in fact entirely UNSUITABLE due to the existing and further expansion of the rural-residential nature of the area. The proposed wind farm would change the very nature of the existence of the residents in this community from one of total peace and quiet solitude to one of disquiet, dissatisfaction and imposition.

Yours faithfully  
Jim Moore and Lynda Knapman  
Residents of Boro Road, Boro



C.C.  
Department of Planning and Environment  
John Barilaro –Local Member  
Brian Elton  
Louise Wakefield – Goulburn Council Representative  
Belinda Hogarth-Boyd – Palerang Council Representative  
CCC Representenatives