

Planning Services

NSW Department of Planning & Environment

GPO Box 39

SYDNEY NSW 2001

**RE: Rye Park Wind Farm Project Application – Application Number 10-0223**

**Attention: Executive Director, Resource Assessments & Business Systems.**

To Whom It May Concern,

The Visual Impact score for our residency on the report is **High-Moderate**(P95 of Appendix A) which I believe this has been graded at a lower rate and should be a grading of **High**. This grading is brought down by a moderate rating on a Magnitude of Visual Effects(Table 16) where it states *“short to medium distance of views over a medium duration of time. A Moderate extent of wind turbine visibility will have the potential to dominate available views with visibility receding over increasing distance. Partial alteration to pre-development view or introduction of elements that may be prominent but not uncharacteristic with the existing landscape”*. My problem with this statement is;

- **Short to Medium distance:** to start with the criteria for Short to Medium is between 1 and 5km which is very disingenuous if you take a look at the examples in on page 74. IMO the 1.25km from our back door to the closest turbine is a very short distance and our property extends back by another few hundred metres. So depending on where the turbine ends up (I see reports that they can move up to 100metres) parts of our property could end up in the definition of Very Short. To further compound this Andrew from Trust power advised in writing that our property boundary is 950m from the closest turbine.
- **A Moderate extent of wind turbine visibility:** our Extent of visibility (ZVI hub height) score that the report has given us is a **Low**. This goes against the above statement and it also goes against Table 13(page 75) that states for properties 1-3km distance from the turbine will *“dominate the landscape in which the wind turbine is situated... Turbines Potentially dominant within viewership(potentially resulting in Moderate to High level visibility)”*.
- **Partial alteration to pre-development view or introduction of elements that may be prominent but not uncharacteristic with the existing landscape:** the report states in multiple locations that for our situation that the turbine will dominate the view and the example pictures in the report show that 1.25km is very close. To state that we will have *Partial alteration* and *not uncharacteristic with existing landscape* doesn't match up with what the report states and understates the effect that this will cause.

The proposed powerline path for the 330v runs the entire distance of our back view and will be roughly 1.165km away from our back door. The Visual Significance score for our residence has been given a **Low**(p197) which again has understated the effect this will have on our view.

- Andrew Umney from Trust Power advised on the 22/06/016 that our property boarder is 950metres from the closest Turbine. This will make the power line roughly 800 to 850 metres from our property boarder
- The degree of visibility(p197) states *“views of powerline will be partially screened by low undulating landform below the main wind farm, and by scattered to denser areas of tree cover on hillside slopes beyond the ridge line”* but if you look at the montage of our view(p166) that analysis doesn't sound like our property. The proposed powerline path runs across a mostly empty field and will be highly visible.
- The degree of visibility(p197) also states *“strategic planting to the North and north east of the dwelling would potentially screen portions of the powerline from views surrounding the dwelling”*. This doesn't actually solve the issue that the powerline is having a high visual significance to our property. Also who will

be providing the resources for fully grown trees, planting and maintenance, and the time for a professional horticulturist/Landscaper to provide advice for the “strategic planting”?

We asked trust power on the 07/06/16 to provide an updated view montage and measurements to both powerline and the closest wind turbine not only from our dwelling but also from our back fence. We were told that this would take “20 minutes” and at the time of this submission we haven’t received all the requested information.

During our meeting with trust power the discussion of noise levels and what these might sound like. They used examples of “class room” or “cafe” to explain the levels of noise that the turbines will produce. These examples are amateurish and honestly aren’t very good as both settings can fluctuate in noise level at any point. The noise impact assessment(P18) puts our property right on the borderline of criterion when the wind level gets up to 8 – 11m/s.

This is obviously concerning so we requested noise measuring equipment/testing to be installed on our property during our meeting with Trust Power on the 07/06/16. As of this submission we haven’t received any information on this request.