I would like to say that I am against the construction of the Rye Park Wind Farm. Many reasons and issues have been raised by other parties so I wish to put only a few of my concerns forward.

The credibility of the construction noise assessment completed by Sonus Pty Ltd

Firstly, I query that Sonus Pty Ltd are actually independent of Trustpower as Sonus and Trustpower have travelled the country now holding combined information days, in 3 states NSW, Victoria aswell as South Australia, such was the situation at Rye Park on 22nd September 2015.

I question the credibility of Sonus Pty Ltd represented At Rye Park on the 22nd September 2015 by founder Chris Turnbull (Ref. *www.**sonus**.com.au/)*

-

On that day in September last year, Trustpower held its so called Community Consultation Day at the Rye Park Hall, when to dispel the associated phenomena of noise generated by wind farms, Chris Turnbull Representing Sonus Pty Ltd had on hand what he claimed was a recording of the audible noise generated by 109 Wind Towers (in theory to replicate the downsize Rye Park Wind farm to 109 Wind Turbines) at what he claimed was recorded at 2 kilometres.

When in front of several witnesses I asked Chris Turnbull, where the recording was taken, he did not know.

Then I asked him who had taken the recording? Once again Mr Turnbull did not know.

To sum that questioning up I said “Therefore if you neither know where the recording was taken or who did the recording, then how do you actually know that it’s 109 Wind Towers?

Once again he could not answer me.

On this point if the self-proclaimed founder of a company does not have validation of the information that he is disseminating at information days I question the credibility of this company.

I also query their documentation Rye Park Wind Farm “Environmental Noise Assessment” Particularly in relationship to construction noise, although Sonus seems to have addressed the actual construction vehicles/machinery motor noise levels, aswell as addressing items like trencher, rock crusher noise etc claiming that they can keep noise levels below 55dB at 20 meters and then go on to state that basically vibration from trenching and roller operation noise will be undetectable at 100 meters.

In disbelief I read this information Page 32 & 33 of their report, as I know full well where we live that the workings of a properly maintained bulldozer 2 kilometres away can be felt and heard through the floor of our concrete slab house.

I have searched through the Sonus document and can find no reference to machinery movement audible warning “beepers”.

So I researched this issue and find that these “beepers” by law operate at 15dB above background noise. ie Construction noise levels.

In any case these movement audible warning “beepers” must not operate under 65dB (well above the noise level claimed to be achieved by Sonus Pty Ltd) but not above 112dB

As it’s obvious that it is Trustpower’s’ intention to construct the Rye Park Wind Farm’s Wind Towers on the crest of the range East of Rye Park Sonus does not appear to have addressed the frequent sound made by these very audible warning sounds from either construction machinery nor construction vehicles- a mound of earth will not dampen this sound, these warning notes from machinery are designed to warn people around solid corners such as brick walls.

The continual movement of construction traffic/machinery emitting associated high pitched audible warning intermittent frequent sounds will disrupt the daily lives of Rye Park Village residents and in particular the students attending the Rye Park Public School.

The Rye Park village is less than 3 kilometres for the proposed construction site therefore obviously the Rye Park Public school is less than 3 kilometres from the intended Rye Park Wind Farm construction site.

These high level machinery movement warning sounds will transverse that distance easierly!

I have spent much of my working life as a multi-licensed electrician, working both on inner city commercial building sites and aswell on industrial sites, in High Voltage Switch Yards and in noisy factories. I know from personal experience that these sound emitting machinery movement warning devices can be heard over inner city traffic and heavy manufacturing equipment such as coin stamping presses in the Royal Australian Mint.

So I suggest that the continual high-pitched regular frequency noise which is designed to travel far and wide and is designed to be well above the construction noise level, to warn construction workers of imminent danger will disrupt the lives of everyone along the whole length of the Rye Park Wind Farm construction zone. As is obvious by the very wind farm design it is tobe constructed along the very Rye Park ridge’s ridgeline, and generally everyone living along that corridor will live in the valley below then their daily lives will be continually disrupted by the totally legal requirement to have these movement beepers operational by law on all moving machinery.

I certainly received mention of this by people affected by the same noise that lived well away from the construction site of the Gullen Range Wind Farm near Crookwell.

So I ask the reader to look at this Sonus Pty Ltd report and ask the question is it a credible document, from a credible company?

John McGrath
Vice Chairman Yass District Landscape Guardians
"Yowerweena"
Black Range Road
Yass NSW 2582

Other concerns I wish to put forward are as follows:

The Diamond Firetail Finch *(Stagonopleura guttata)*

I would like to ask that the Rye Park Wind Farm that the not go ahead especially with respect to the habitat disruption/destruction regarding the amount of clearing as predicted necessary to construct this highly subsidised industrial estate, due to the further habitat fragmentation/absolute destruction of the environment of a species not addressed by **NGH Environmental's *Biodiversity Assessment Addendum*** *Rye Park Wind Farm* March 2016. The Diamond Firetail Finch *(Stagonopleura guttata)*

This species is listed as near threatened. Reference IUCN (below) and has been recorded by well-known Boorowa local an astute observer of nature Mr Pat Thompson as having a breeding population within the area designated for the removal of habitat. Mr Thompson states that this species builds its atypical globularly Australian Grass Finch nest with its side entrance in eucalypt saplings growing within the area bounded by the "greater" Rye Park Wind Farm, Pat Thompson also states that he has observed this finch constructing its nest out of the much maligned Sifton Bush *Cassina arcuata*, the Diamond Firetail Finch is also known to construct its nest in the closer knit branches of Mistletoe associated with and being borne by older trees in habitat such as will be found in the area tobe cleared for the proposed Rye Park Wind Farm.

In the process of this clearing the Rye Farm Wind Farm the Diamond Fire Tailed Finch will not only lose essential breeding habitat aswell as restrict it accessibility to major local feeding grounds, thus as this species is unmentioned by NGH and is another candidate for possible extinction even if it's local extinction is it worth the risk of future generations pointing the finger at the reader if this was to occur, when they the reader has been a party to the forever loss of yet another never tobe replaced Australian species?

By allowing the interference with the remaining although disturbed ecosystem in the Rye Park area will spell the local death knell for another species, if this installation was to go ahead this small finch will be severely affected by land and habitat disturbances aswell affecting lost and disturbed feeding/breeding habitat, this

species will also be affected by Barotrauma.* Due to its small and relatively fragile build, the Diamond Fire Tailed Finch as will many other smaller avian and flying mammalian species (bats) attempting to exist in and around the wind turbines.

Extract; *"Native vegetation of Boorowa Shire NSW NPWS 2002*

The IUCN has classified the species as being of near threatened. The bird's habitat has been threatened by alteration of vegetation structure caused by over-grazing, weed invasion, salinisation and other flow-on processes. This loss of main food plants and habitat results in competition with invasive species, and increased predation.

4.5.12 Diamond Firetail (Stagonopleura guttata)
The Diamond Firetail is a small finch that inhabits drier grassy woodlands in South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, the ACT and Queensland. The species feeds predominantly on grass seeds and nests in shrubs and small trees either in single pairs or communally.

Conservation Status.

The species still occupies much of its broad range but within this range it has become extinct in small remnants of vegetation.

This species was recorded infrequently in Boorowa Shire during the project but has, nevertheless, been recorded from numerous sites. It appears to be restricted largely to ungrazed or lightly grassland/woodland remnants.

Issues in Boorowa Shire.

As this species feeds largely on grass seeds it is likely that heavily grazed areasprovide less suitable habitat than roadsides and public lands subjected to infrequent grazing. Mowing of roadside vegetation as part of maintenance activities may affect this species. All planning assessments for road maintenance within the shire should include an eight part test for this species, except perhaps for some roadsides classed in this report as Low Conservation Value. Revegetation works can provide suitable habitat for this species. A recent survey of revegetation sites for Greening Australia found this bird in a variety of revegetation plots from short windrows to large 15ha blocks, it was only found in sites at least 9 years old. It has been recorded as breeding in revegetated areas (Greening Australia 2001)."

So once more I ask, is it acceptable that in the name of so called Green Energy/Highly Subsidised Industrial Estates that we destroy part of what may be the last vestige of another struggling native Australian species, the Diamond Fire Tailed Finch?

Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor)*

I would ask that the Rye Park Wind Farm not go ahead because of the existence of the Swift Parrot. ***Lathamus discolor*** feeding grounds right throughout the construction zone planned for the Rye Park Wind farm.

Since the commencement of and acceptance of the NGH **Environmental's *Biodiversity Assessment Addendum*** *Rye Park Wind Farm* March 2016, as an accepted guide by the NSW OEH the status of the Swift Parrot has been raised to Critically Endangered species,

Reference: Listed as Critically Endangered
Approved Conservation Advice for Lathamus discolor (swift Parrot) (Threatened Species Scientific Committee, 2016cg) (Conservation Advice.)

Listing and Conservation Advices

The Swift Parrot hardly rates a mention on the **NGH Environmental's *Biodiversity Assessment Addendum*** *Rye Park Wind Farm* March 2016. Except scantly on page 50, referring as follows;

"The project area is not considered to support foraging habitat for the Swift Parrot; this species was not observed during targeted surveys."

Even when I raised the issue of the Swift Parrot with Trustpower's Mr Michael Head when I visited the Trustpower "Information Centre" in Yass on the afternoon of the 25th May 2016, he directed my attention to 3 pink dots on their wall mounted maps, 2 of those dots where overlayed on each other.

Information to the contrary of NGH's information highlighted in green above supplied by well-known and respected Rye Park local Mr Verdi Barberis who when on repeated camping trips spanning a decade with his family, during the months of August September each year from 2006 to 2015 inclusive observed this species in proliferation feeding on the nectar of the flowering Eucalypts in particular the nectar of the flowers of the Red Flowering Iron Bark AKA as the Mugga Iron Bark ***Eucalyptus sideroxylon***

Verdi Barberis was even able to name the areas where he saw the Swift Parrot feeding and cross referenced these positions by suppling me with the Wind Turbine numbers as numbered from his original EPURON allocated numbers. The EPURON tower numbers that Verdi quoted me where as follows;

45,46,47,144 then 29.32,34,37,40,43,41,42,48,47 and 50on top of Mt Hume, on Mt Vernon80,81,82,83,73,74,75,76,77

I suggest rather than a species that is not considered being at significant risk from habitat destruction that the reverse is the case, considering its latest status downgrade.

I would also strongly suggest that the increased RSA will have a devastating effect on this species, obviously if this species flew below the 30 metre ABGL mark as suggested as they do by NGH Environmental I would suggest that then most of the birds would drown as they crossed Bass Straight in their annual flight to and from the mainland and Tasmania each year as they would "collide" with the tops of the higher Bass Straight waves.

Therefore rather than just do Desk Top Assessments as is suggested right throughout NGH Environmental's document 2016, I suggest both NGH and NSW OEH should move outside their respective offices and actually visit the proposed site at the relevant time of year to see the affected species and I also suggest that there should be a proper follow up on the "ground' study documented on the Swift Parrot and its habits in the area planned for Rye Park Wind Farm.

I suggest that a true **independent body** do this study and that construction commencement be held over until that study is documented.

The revised RSA will severely impact on the Swift Parrot .

With reference to "Australian Parrots" Joseph M. Forshaw Third [Revised edition] 2002

Page 504 the world wide respected author has printed under heading Habits. IN part "They are arboreal, spending much of their time feeding among the top-most branches of flowering eucalypts,"

Forshaw also backs up Verdi Barberis's observation that on page 506 of his publication "the parrots feed mainly in winter-flowering plants, especially red ironbark *Eucalyptus sideroxylon"*

Referring to the later 2 documented observations I would suggest puts the Swift Parrot within the "new" prescribed RSA for Rye Park Wind Farm ie lower sweep 30 meters AGL and its upper tip of 157 meters AGL, therefore putting this now **critically endangered** species into an even more perilous position should the Rye Park Wind Farm go ahead.

Given the height that this species feeds on flowering eucalypts, it will be in immense peril from blade strike transiting from one feeding tree to another well above the 30 meter height therefore in the direct path of the revised RSA, for the Rye Park Wind Farm's Wind Towers.

Once again I suggest that OEH refer to their own documentation in Vegetation of the Boorowa Shire 2002, if they wish to continue using Desk Top Assessments utilise the knowledge collected by their own staff rather than the desktop assessments (references to desktop assessments throughout their own documentation **NGH Environmental's *Biodiversity Assessment Addendum*** *Rye Park Wind Farm* March 2016)

http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=744#movement_patterns

"4.5.3 Swift Parrot (Lathamus discolor)

The Swift Parrot is a medium-sized, predominantly green parrot that breeds in Tasmania in the summer months. During autumn much of the population migrates to mainland Australia. Autumn and winter flowering Eucalyptus species such as White Box and Red Ironbark form an important component of the diet of the species during this period.

Conservation Status

The Swift Parrot is threatened by clearing of breeding habitat in Tasmania and foraging habitat on mainland Australia. It was recorded in Gunnary TSR during the project and is likely to regularly occur within Boorowa Shire, although it may be absent in some years depending on the magnitude of the flowering of Eucalyptus species.

Issues in Boorowa Shire
Two of the Swift Parrot's main feed trees on mainland Australia, White Box and Red Ironbark, occur throughout Boorowa Shire. A Tree Preservation Order and education program would assist in the conservation of this species. All planning assessments for road maintenance within the shire should include an eight part test for this species, except perhaps for some roadsides classed in this report as Low Conservation Value.

The perilous state of the Shire's vegetation means that its retention, regeneration and rehabilitation on private land is crucial to its survival. This report provides information of use to those engaged in such activities. It can be used as a guide to the selection of suitable species for planting, provides further justification for the allocation of Landcare and Natural Heritage Trust funding to the Shire and contains specific conservation advice.

Roadsides and Travelling Stock Reserves are generally the areas which retain the greatest plant diversity within the Shire. Council has the key responsibility for protecting remaining roadside vegetation, while rural Lands Protection Boards are responsible for the stock reserves. Conservation advice for these areas includes protection of the most significant areas and implementation of compatible
management."

This report also suggests that the survival of native vegetation and threatened species habitat would be enhanced by the inclusion of a tree preservation order and a clause that protects roadside vegetation in the Shire's Local Environment Plan.

***"_landscape integrity** - Landscape integrity refers to whether an ecosystem falls into a heavily modified landscape, which would be ranked as a 5, on a scale of 1to 5. If an ecosystem falls within a natural matrix of ecosystems with little overall modification, it would be ranked as a 1 in a scale of 1 to 5; _**extent of habitat fragmentation** - The comparative size of the current patch relative to historical conditions. A highly fragmented ecosystem with predominantly small patch sizes would be ranked as a 5, on a scale of 1 to 5. If an ecosystem occurs in large, intact and naturally shaped patches or relatively intact linear patches, it would be ranked as a 1, on a scale of 1 to 5;*
*_**proportion of native species present** - If an ecosystem has a high proportion of native species present in most of its patches, it would be ranked as a 1, on a scale of 1 to 5. If an ecosystem had mostly exotic species present in most of its patches, it would be ranked as a 5, on a scale of 1 to 5.*
*_**current habitat complexity -** This criterion refers to the microhabitat of an ecosystem, relative to historical conditions. Some ecosystems are inherently more variable and have more layers and places for plants or animals to find resources or shelter. An ecosystem with a high habitat complexity would be ranked as 1, on a scale of 1-5. An ecosystem with few layers and few microhabitats for species would be ranked as a 5, on a scale of 1 to 5.*
*_ **presence or absence of key functional groups** - If most of the functional groups are present within an ecosystem, it would be ranked as a 1, on scale of 1 to 5. If an*
ecosystem has lost some key functional groups, which affects ecological processes within an ecosystem, it would be ranked as a 5, on a scale of 1 to 5.

Table 2 shows how the five criteria above are assessed and combined to create four categories of ecosystem functionality. Of necessity, subjective judgements are involved.

Conservation Value and Management of Roadside Vegetation

2.1 Introduction

In many parts of Boorowa Shire, roadside vegetation is the only original native vegetation that remains. These remnants contain plant communities that are poorly preserved on the surrounding private land.

In regions that are highly modified, such as the Boorowa Shire, roadside vegetation is a valuable tool in determining the composition of the pre-European environment.

Roadsides are especially important for the conservation of understorey plant species which are sensitive to grazing pressure. These species often survive only within the narrow fenced roadside area. Grazing land adjacent to roadsides typically contains a mixture of exotic pasture species, weeds and native species which are able to tolerate sustained grazing pressure, such as Red Grass (Bothriochloa macra) and Speargrasses (Austrostipa spp.). Where cropping or horticultural landuse is practised the vegetation has been completely altered from its pre-European state and typically retains no endemic vegetation. Road reserves were established to provide access from one place to another and have evolved to perform a number of functions including the provision of services including communication, electricity, drainage, sewage and gas. They are also used for stock grazing, beekeeping and recreational activities. Ideally roadsides are not the most suitable places for wildlife and native plants, however they are often all that remains in certain landscapes. There are many natural, economic, social and cultural reasons why roadside vegetation should be valued and retained.

Roadside reserves containing native vegetation are important because they:

_ may be the only remaining examples of the original native flora prior to non- Aboriginal occupation

_ provide a source of seeds for farm tree planting of locally adapted indigenous trees and shrubs

_ provide habitat for birds and other fauna which may help to control agricultural pests

_ may contain rare or threatened species and communities

_ help to retain the biodiversity of the region

_ conserve the genetic variation of flora species for their potential economic and scientific value and the long term survival of the species

_ may act as corridors connecting other areas of remnant vegetation thereby allowing the movement of wildlife

_ are an important resource for stock during drought

_ may contain historical sites (Aboriginal and early European)

_ Keep vegetation disturbance in all areas to a minimum to reduce potential soil erosion and the spread of weeds. The cost of earthworks and revegetation to mitigate soil erosion can be very expensive.

_ Where excavation of the soil profile is to take place topsoil should be removed to a depth of 100-200mm and stockpiled in designated sites. Topsoil should be respread as soon as possible to allow regeneration from the soil seed bank to occur.

_ Silt fences or hay bales should be used during construction to prevent sediment from moving from freshly graded table drains or other disturbed areas.

_ Upon completion of works disturbed areas should be revegetated as soon as possible with species appropriate for the site. Ideally table drains should be seeded with local native grasses. An alternative is a sterile cover crop (varieties bred to set non-viable seed), which will be replaced by native seed over time. This is particularly important in areas of high conservation value roadside where introduced grasses may invade the adjoining vegetation. Local Greening Australia and Landcare offices will be able to provide advice about appropriate seed sources

Management issues that need to be considered for Travelling Stock Reserves include:

_ Collection of firewood. Firewood collection often results in the removal of much of the dead woody debris that forms an integral component of the habitat of several threatened species including the Bush Stone-curlew, Hooded Robin, Brown Treecreeper and Speckled Warbler as well as a host of regionally significant fauna species. Dead Timber is uncommon in virtually all the areas TSRs. No

further permits for firewood collection should be issued and illegal collection should be prosecuted. Signs prohibiting firewood collection would be helpful.
_ Use of reserves for long-term grazing. The conservation value of native vegetation

4 Threatened Species and Endangered Ecological Communities

4.1 Introduction

This section of the report provides a summary of the endangered and threatened flora and fauna species and endangered ecological communities recorded from within Boorowa Shire. A brief summary of the ecology of each species, its conservation status throughout its range and in the Boorowa Shire and the implications in relation to proposed activities within the shire is provided. Map 4 shows records of threatened fauna within Boorowa Shire. These records include those from the NSW NPWS Atlas of NSW Wildlife and from observations made during the vegetation mapping project.

4.2 Legislative Framework

4.2.1 Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995

The NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (TSC Act 1995) provides the legislative basis for the protection of threatened species in NSW. The Act provides for the establishment and maintenance of schedules of endangered and threatened fauna and flora species and endangered ecological communities. It places responsibilities on government agencies, consent authorities and applicants with respect to development control, planning and species recovery planning. There is no requirement under the Act to apply for a licence to "harm or pick" a threatened species in order to undertake routine agricultural activities. As the majority of activities affecting threatened species on private lands in Boorowa Shire fall within this category, the Act will not necessarily have a direct influence on landholders under most circumstances. Routine agricultural activities include:

_ Grazing of lands that have been regularly stocked in the past;
_ Maintenance of existing tracks on properties;
_ Maintenance of existing fencelines;
_ Occasional tree felling;
_ Collection of firewood for personal use.

Activities that do not constitute routine agricultural activities include:

_ Firewood collection for commercial gain;
_ Clearing greater than 2 hectares of native vegetation a year;

4.3 Endangered Ecological Communities

White Box-Yellow Box Woodland is listed as an endangered ecological community on Schedule 1, Part 3 of the TSC Act 1995. This community is defined as woodlands in which the dominant tree species include White Box (Eucalyptus albens), Yellow Box (Eucalyptus melliodora) and Blakely's Red Gum (Eucalyptus blakelyi). The following plant communities identified in this project represent forms of this ecological community:

_ White Box Woodlands
_ Themeda australis-Bothriochloa Grassland/Open Woodland
_ Blakelys Red Gum-Yellow Box- Grassy Woodlands

The native vegetation model accompanying this report indicates that the woodlands representing this community once covered about 44% of Boorowa Shire. They were particularly widespread across the western half of the shire. Today these woodlands occur over less than 3% of the Shire, mostly as small patches of poor condition (ie many weeds present, high level of other disturbances, low native species diversity).

The listing of this community on the TSC Act 1995 reinforces the value of the identification of these communities in this report and the need to implement strategies to protect these remnants. The definition of the community within the TSC Act 1995 includes degraded remnants that would respond to assisted natural regeneration. This could include single paddock trees or clumps of trees within paddocks, which as detailed previously, form a large proportion of the remaining remnants of this plant community in Boorowa Shire.

4.4 Threatened Flora

4.4.1 Tarengo Leek Orchid (Prasophyllum petilum)

This orchid species is known from only three, widely dispersed sites on the South Western Slopes and Southern Tablelands of NSW. Two of the known sites are within cemeteries in the ACT region. The third site is on the Tarengo TSR located approximately five kilometres south-west of Boorowa. At

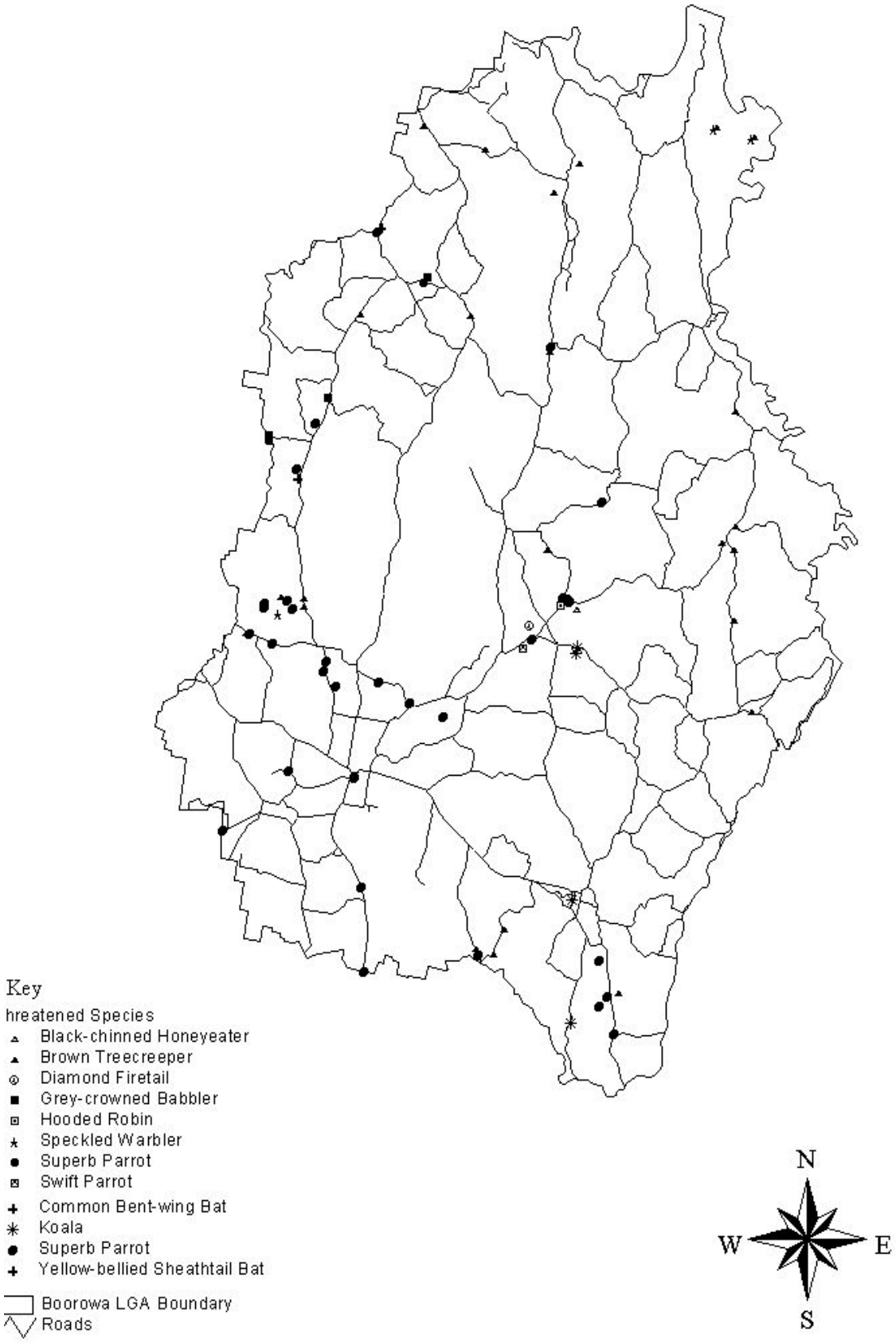
this site, the species occurs within Themeda australis-Bothriochloa macra grassland. The Tarengo TSR supports the largest known population of the species. It is possible that the orchid may occur on private properties in the Boorowa region, particularly those supporting native grasslands and grassy woodlands that have not been subjected to long term grazing pressure. The orchid is currently the focus of a recovery planning program coordinated by the NSW NPWS.

4.4.2 Yass Daisy (Ammobium craspedioides)
The Yass Daisy is distributed roughly between Bigga and Wagga Wagga. This species was recorded in four sites in the south-eastern corner of the shire. This included one site on private property, two on TSRs and one on a crown leasehold property. Surveys for this species are best conducted in spring and summer so it is possible that the species is more widespread in the Boorowa Shire but was not detected at some locations during the project which was conducted during the autumn months. The Yass Daisy occurs in relatively undisturbed grassy woodlands and secondary grasslands (grassy woodlands in which much of the native tree cover has been removed). All sites in which the species was recorded during the survey were characterised by the presence of an understorey dominated largely by native species and a light grazing regime."

Using a company such as NGH environment which will not be an independent environmental assessor. .

Therefore as I ask that any thought of commencement of constructing the proposed Rye Park Wind Farm be held over until a proper and independent assessment of the **critically Endangered** Swift Parrot be carried out in the proposed construction area.

MAP 4 - Records of threatened fauna in Boorowa Shire



Superb Parrot *Polytelis swainsonii*

I object to the proposed installation of the Rye Park Wind Farm for if no other reason than to halt the already accelerating demise of a parrot that has been readily accepted as an emblem by the former Boorowa Shire Council.

This species is listed as vulnerable, the Boorowa district is worldwide recognised for the place where this species returns each year to breed. Its very existence draws people from around both this country and the world to the Boorowa District each Spring to see it in the flesh.

I for one have hosted people from interstate including Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia to have me take them to Boorowa to see this species; likewise I have been privileged and honoured to have hosted international guests from The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, The Czech Republic and Britain to come here to see this species in the Boorowa district.

Listed as Vulnerable
Listing and Conservation Advices

Approved Conservation Advice for Polytelis swainsonii *(superb parrot)* (Threatened Species Scientific Committee, 2016ch) [Conservation Advice].

Page 49 points out rightly that the Superb Parrot ***Polytelis swainsonii*** is in fact migratory as stated in on the **NGH Environmental's *Biodiversity Assessment Addendum*** *Rye Park Wind Farm* March 2016 but returns to the Boorowa area each September to commence breeding activities therefore it relies on Hollow Bearing Trees (HBT), the very HBT that are in line tobe clear felled to the point of plus 300 hectares in area and over 1000 in number as confessed by these very documents.

Whether NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) are aware of it or not but the very flowers of existing large eucalypt trees to be removed in the land clearance such as the Yellow Box ***Eucalyptus melliodora*** are a source of quick sustenance after the Superb Parrots arrive exhausted after long high flights from their Northern haunts in September each year has not been taken into account here.

This energy source is also taken as a build up for the birds as they are very soon nesting after arrival.

The Superb Parrot has a very direct flight path and travels at various levels, therefore the proposed Rotor Swing Area (RSA) increase to 130 meters will have a devastating effect on this species through unmitigated blade strikes at all levels.

The Superb Parrot flies at various heights Above Ground Level (AGL) through and over open forests and at heights over 100 meters, very rarely does this species fly at levels below 30 meters unless across open fields as they come into land when foraging on grass seed.

The proposed 100 meter setback for towers from HBT or existing foraging and or nesting sites will be of little use in reducing collisions of this parrot with the fast spinning blades.

I ask then if anyone from society where to take, kill or interfere with the Superb Parrot there would be a very severe penalty imposed, yet a foreign own Wind Farm operator can destroy many of this species each year and not suffer the same consequences?

Where is the ecological justice in that?

Maybe the OEH should refer to their very own documentation, on this species as per the work done in 2002 in the Boorowa Shire-Vegetation of the Boorowa Shire.
Extract below;

844.5.2 Superb Parrot (Polytelis swainsonii)
Boorowa Shire is well known for the occurrence of a breeding population of the Superb Parrot, present during the spring and summer months of the year. The species has been adopted by the Shire as a symbol of the region. It is a predominantly green, medium sized parrot, the males of which have bright yellow cheeks and throat, bordered on the top of the breast by a crescent-shaped band of red. Females are largely green, lacking the bright colours of the male.

Conservation Status

Notwithstanding the species' public profile and appropriate management by many landholders, its habitat continues to be destroyed through insidious and culturally entrenched land use practices.

In Boorowa Shire it has become threatened through clearing of native vegetation and is further threatened as result of the continuing loss of mature or dead trees with hollows. This includes mature trees or stags along roadsides and in paddocks. The rarity of this species is perhaps masked to some extent by its conspicuousness and the fact that it is an easily identified species with a high public profile in the region.

Issues in Boorowa Shire

Removal of nesting trees, including isolated paddock trees and roadside trees, and a reduction in foraging habitats pose the most serious threats to this species in the shire. The fragmented nature of woodland trees and the lack of regeneration are significant long-term issues that need to be addressed. maintenance or works within road reserves in Boorowa Shire should include an eight part test for this species, except perhaps for some roadsides classed in this report as Low Conservation Value. The adoption of a tree preservation order would also aid the conservation of this parrot."

I therefore query why the successors the NSW OEH to a report such as this from 14 years previous cannot see alarm bells ring when turning a blind eye to this very same report?

I therefore say if the reader in part wishes to be responsible for the further demise/permanent extinction of such an iconic species then go ahead and approve Rye Park Wind Farm, and stand idly by as this species disappears completely from our landscape and culture!

Australia does not have a credible status as far as extinction of native species is concerned, so in this day and age 2016 should we be aiding and abetting that extensive extinction rate by allowing the further construction of highly subsidised Wind Farms?

…….

Southern Pygmy Perch *Nannoperca australis*

I ask that the construction of the Rye Park Wind Farm not be allowed to proceed because of the endangered Southern Pygmy Perch *Nannoperca australis*

NGH Environmental state in their ***Biodiversity Assessment Addendum*** *Rye Park Wind Farm* March 2016, Section 5.7.1 that the Endangered Southern Pygmy Perch is known to

occur in Blakney Creek and they also “rightly observe” that this species was introduced into the Pudman Creek.

NGH Environmental cites pressure on the Southern Pygmy Perch by introduced Red Fin Perch; obviously any introduced exotic carnivorous fish will have an impact on any existing native more docile fish populations.

I ask the age old question “Do 2 wrongs make 1 right?”

Please read on.
According to NGH **Environmental’s *Biodiversity Assessment Addendum*** *Rye Park Wind Farm* March 2016, documentation Figure 5-1/Aerial/Satellite imagining and overlay of highlighting both the portion of the Blakney Creek that runs through the area adjacent to the relevant showing the sites of 44 Wind Towers if my counting is correct, this image also shows in 2 portions highlighted of the Pudman Creek.

Why is it correct for 1 arm of NSW Government departments the Department of Fisheries to restock into local streams a fish species “teetering on the brink of local extinction” and with the “swipe” of a pen another branch of that same NSW Government its State Planning Department to allow a Wind Farm development to go ahead on the proviso of a very flawed report as put forward by NGH Environmental.

I and others believe that going on past Wind Farm constructions environmental results that Rye Park Wind Farm if constructed will allow heavy siltation of Blakney, Flakeney and Pudman Creeks, from both access roads and site preparations for the Wind Towers themselves.

This imminent heavy siltation will be detrimental to any chance of the survival of this and any other aquatic species including the Southern Pygmy Perch.

Therefore I ask that the commencement of this project the Rye Park Wind Farm be cancelled until independent detailed observations are done of this species.

By reading NSW OEH’s former Departments NSW NPWS document *“Native vegetation of Boorowa Shire NSW NPWS 2002”* the authors have pointed out 14 years ago that interference on any scale that alone with the enormity of this projected project, the Rye Park Wind Farm will have on an assemblage of threatened, endangered, critically endangered flora and fauna that’s already recorded in this region who would let this devastation on the remaining ecology of the Rye Park area to go ahead?

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Barotrauma definition
barotrauma
ˈbarə(ʊ)ˌtrɔːmə,-ˌtraʊmə/
noun
Medicine
noun: **barotrauma**
1.injury caused by a change in air pressure, affecting typically the ear or the lung.
Barotrauma - Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia

Barotrauma is physical damage to body tissues caused by a difference in pressure between a gas space inside, or in contact with the body, and the surrounding fluid.
Types of injury · Diving barotrauma · Blast induced barotrauma

Once again I draw the reader and members of the NSW OEH that I am assured did similar Desk Top Assessments, as advised to me during one of three phone conversation with OEH Representative Virginia Thomas on 2nd June 2015 and as its repeatedly printed in NGH's report that they have done similar Desktop Assessments, I suggest that their Desktop Assessments are incomplete I once again refer the reader to below.
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Proceedings of ACOUSTICS 2009 23-25 November 2009, Adelaide, Australia Acoustics 2009 1

Effectiveness of non-tonal audible movement warning alarms for construction sites

Marion Burgess and Matthew McCarty
Acoustics and Vibration Unit, University of NSW at Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra, ACT, Australia

If the alarm is considered an 'auditory warning signals' then ISO 7731 would apply, requiring the level of the signal to be 15 dB above the background noise level in the area, not to exceed 112 dB and recommending the alarm to have dominant tones. There is no specific distance from the alarm for these levels as the definition for area is that "in which persons are intended to recognize and react to a signal"

For movement alarms on earth moving equipment, then ISO 9533 would likely apply, requiring the alarm to be at least as loud as the engine under full power at the defined measurement locations around the item.

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