

This modification and the wind farm it modifies are not required.

The developer, on Page 8 of the EIS has chosen to open the argument up to the whole wind farm, not just this modification.

Afforded the same privilege, we would argue that the wind farm is in the wrong place and its power production is not required.

In its February 2018 Assessment rejecting the Jupiter wind farm proposal, the Department wrote that it:

“...considers that the site is not suitable for a large-scale wind farm.”

Neither is the Flyers Creek site suitable, with its **127** non-associated residences within 5 Km of a turbine, including 23 within 2 Km of a turbine.

(Whilst these figures may have been correct 6 years ago. The developer has made no attempt to determine whether they are correct today. If no additional residences have been built in the intervening years, it starkly demonstrates how a wind farm, even if not constructed, stops rural investment stone dead. Additionally, no attempt is made to include in the original EIS or in the current one the impacts on properties with residential rights, as required.)

A genuine EIS in 2013 followed by a genuine merit assessment/determination in 2013/2014 would similarly have verified the unsuitability of this site, as it did with Jupiter.

The Department also wrote in rejecting the Jupiter wind farm proposal:

“The Department considers there is a suite of renewable projects (including both wind and solar) either approved and not constructed or currently in the assessment process that also have the capacity to provide renewable energy in NSW”

Which is a nice way of saying that NSW doesn't need the electricity from this proposal.

Since that statement was made in February 2018, 5050 MW of new large scale solar projects have entered the NSW planning system and another 815 MW of large scale solar projects already in the approval cycle have been approved, making the increased generational capacity of this modification even more moot, and rendering this modification pointless.

In the same period, and the four years before, no new wind farm proposals entered the planning system. Jupiter was withdrawn. The renewables industry has spoken. Determining bodies need to catch up.

In an environment where the demand for grid connected electricity is stagnant or falling, if the Department can say in February 2018 that NSW doesn't need the electricity, it certainly does not need the negligible amount this total project will provide and it most certainly doesn't need the miniscule addition provided by this upgrade.

Give the local community some respite after a decade of instability and uncertainty and reject this modification. Jupiter's rejection set a precedent. Follow it!