

"The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance"

THE RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA (NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH)

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Briar Corner CARCOAR NSW 2791

December 17th, 2011

Mr. Toby Philp, NSW Department of Planning, 23-33 Bridge Street, SYDNEY NSW 2791

Dear Sir.

FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM PROPOSAL

REFERENCE: MP08 0252

We, the members of the RSL Lyndhurst Sub Branch, wish to object to the proposal to construct the Flyers Creek Wind Farm, the 44 wind turbine complex which the Department of Planning is about to assess for approval.

We feel that this wind farm is an inappropriate development for our district which is in fact a relatively densely populated rural area. From studying the Environmental Assessment on your website we determine it will occupy a tract of country where there are commercial farming enterprises, and large mining operation (Newcrest's Cadia Valley Operations) and also an increasing number of residents on small holdings and acreages. This population is increasing due to the proximity to Orange and to other smaller towns such as Millthorpe, Blayney and villages. The number of people who will be impacted by the presence of the wind turbines appears to be significant and therefore unacceptable.

We have canvassed our own members and also residents in the community at large. The RSL draws members from the actual area of the wind turbine development and also slightly further afield to include members from Blayney, Millthorpe, Carcoar, Mandurama and the agricultural land between. Anecdotally there does not appear to be very much support for the development of a wind farm in

the district; the most support obviously comes from those who will appear to benefit – the wind turbine hosts themselves. We therefore feel we speak not only for the local RSL membership but also for the wider community.

Of great concern to the RSL, with an ageing membership, is the effect these turbines will have on the elderly. It is an accepted fact that the demographics of the agricultural sector show an ageing trend in the farming community as well.

We have had the opportunity to speak to other RSL members from other areas where wind turbines are already operating. We note that within communities hosting wind turbines there is a percentage of the population who are experiencing adverse health effects. We have done our own research and are convinced that the elderly are one section of the community who are more susceptible to noise problems and hence health effects. This has been confirmed by talking to effected communities who describe noise as being a significant deterrent to hosting wind turbines. In fact some of the health impacts are most concerning.

We believe that Infigen Energy feels it has the support of the district but we would dispute that. It does not have the support of the RSL Lyndhurst Sub Branch.

We would appreciate your taking our objections into your consideration of the Flyers Creek Wind Farm proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Geoffrey Braddon OAM

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