Mr & Mr R N Plummer and M A Meaklim of 7272 Taralga Road Curraweela NSW 2580

'Property ID Number R128'

30 May 2014

Dear Tracy,

Further to the request for public submission for the proposed 'Paling Yards Wind Farm' (the project) a wind energy facility proposed to be constructed by Union Fenosa Wind Australia (UFWA) at Paling Yards (the site) in New South Wales (NSW), approximately 60km south of Oberon and 60km north of Goulburn, and about 140km west of Sydney. The project is proposed to be located within the Oberon Council Local Government Area.

The property known to UFWA was purchased by Mr & Mr RN Plummer and MA Meaklim on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012, and throughout the purchase of said property there was no mention throughout the sale of the property

), and throughout our due diligence process of reasrching and review properties in the region, the proposed development did not appear in any searches that took place by

As Owners of the property known in the report as '**Property ID number R128**', please accept this document as our public submission for our '**REJECTION**' of the following conditions within the proposal to develop Paling Yard Wind Farm, our rejection points are focussed on three (3) primary areas:

- 1. Environmental Impact impact to that of the environment, surrounding wildlife and the river eco-system
- Commercial impact impact to our future earnings under Abercrombie Ridge Pty Ltd and potential resale value of our property.
- 3. Personal Impact impact to ourselves and other staying at the property, potential health and visual impact of the development
- 4. Property value versus commercial value and long term income potential

Over the last 18 months of owning the property, we have significantly invested well over \$100,000 (on top of the purchase price) to get the primary dwelling up to the standard where we are now, which is suitable to launch the accommodation commencing 1 July 2014. We will be investing a significant amount more to have the property grounds and cabins added to the property over the next 12-18 months.

## Our REJECTION points are as follows:

The purpose for which we bought this property was for our long-term retirement plan and in addition to the main house being the primary dwelling and generating core income with the addition of further capacity consisting of add up to three (3) cabins for accommodation for which will be offered as a 'bed and breakfast' tourism facility for out-of-towners. The house has now been brought up to a standard of finish and will be available for booking commencing July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. Our proposed business plan is to build the cabins facing the valley across the Great Dividing Range with views to the north and north-west. The proposed Paling yards Wind Farm will be directly in the view of the primary residence and cabins which would ruin the experience of our guests likely to stay.

Our concern is that we will be financially disadvantaged and lose future earnings during any proposed construction phase and bookings within and ongoing throughout the operation of such a facility. We have primarily based our marketing plan on specifically being a retreat away from the city and guests will visit the house and cabins to enjoy the surrounding natural bush settings and its backing onto the Abercrombie River National Park and its surrounds. Our property was chosen due to its natural outlook and panoramic views across a natural country landscape and its ability to attract native wildlife to the property.

Having 55, 175 meter tall wind power turbines were never going to be part of our business plan for operations of Abercrombie Ridge Pty Ltd or spend the next 30 years living next to a wind farm, best known as a power plant directly next door.

I have canvassed a number of potential paying guests in our forward bookings and asked if they would be comfortable staying at the property with construction and/or wind turbines in the primary view, and their answer was no. They did not want to visit a wind farm or stay next to a power plant. Their sole purpose was to get away to visit a country getaway in a tranquil and private location. Abercrombie Ridge is open 24/7, 365 days a year and is not just a weekender property.

This business venture was not taken lightly and our planning is to provide accommodation (bed and breakfast services) over 365 days. The financial impact to our lively hood is likely to be significant based on the proposal put forward. It is primarily because of this that we reject this proposal.

Our website link is <u>www.abercrombieridge.com.au</u> however the website is currently under construction however the staging site can be viewed at <u>www.russ756.wix.com/abercrombieridge</u> - the image on the home page will be impacted by the Paling Yards Wind Farm.



The view from our bathroom will have the Paling Yard Wind Farm on the hills just outside of our window, which will ruin our beautiful outlook aspect, shown in the image below:



Our three (3) cabins will have a north, north-westerly outlook which is the outlook over the ranges (which is the best view) down and across the valley. Below is direction for which the view from the main house and cabins will consume:



The view from our property will be significantly impacted as shown in the photo below (even the Kangaroos aren't happy):



We reject the number of turbines being proposed based on the below heat map image which shows our property (R128) to be noted to have '41 to 50 turbines' visible directly from our property - we believe this is a dramatic deterrent and will cause a visually unappealing view for which we would need to live with over the next 30 years. Below are the montages supplied in the reports from our property:



Photomontage Location PM 2 - Rock Orchard (south of residential dwelling) Proposed view

Indicative extent of single frame photo (refer detail below)





age Location PM 2 Rock Orchard (residential dwelling) Existing view, extended panorama north west to east north east (Bearing 300° to 70°)



ntage Location PM 2 Rock Orchard (residential dwelling) Proposed view, extended panorama north west to east north east (Bearing 300° to 70°) Photon

Figure 24 Photomontage PM 2 Sheet 2

Refer Figure 20 for Photomontage Location

Individual panorama photos taken with a Nikon D700 digital SLR camera with 50 mm prime lens.

Photo coordinates: Easting 753207 Northing 6211629 (MGA 94z55H)

Approximate distance to nearest visible turbine 2.6 km

The heat map below is marked accordingly and shows the reference to the impact of '41-50 turbines' being viewed from our property:



We reject this proposal based on the fact that this proposed project has been identified by the research and studies documented to have a 'potentially long term' impact to the view directly from the property. It is also documented that property number R128 has 'Elevated views across the Abercrombie River towards Paling yards turbines' which directly impacts the views from property R128. See report finding below:

View Location	Category of Potential View Location	View context from residence toward Paling Yards wind turbine layouts	Approximate distance to closest turbine	Relative number of people	Period of view	View Location sensitivity	Theoretical visibility rating from residence (Refer ZVI Diagram 1)	Overall significance of visual impact for the '175m tip' design layout
R128 Rock Orchard	Residential dwelling	Elevated views across Abercrombie River valley toward the Paling Yards turbines.	2.8 km	Very Low	Potentially long term	High	High	Medium
R129	Residential dwelling	Views toward the Paling Yards wind turbines are screened by dense tree cover and topography.	5.9 km	Very Low	Potentially long term	High	Low to Moderate	Nil
R130 Ormonts	Residential dwelling	Views toward the Paling Yards wind turbines are screened by dense tree cover and topography.	6.4 km	Very Low	Potentially long term	High	n/a	Nil
R131	Residential dwelling	Views toward the Paling Yards wind turbines are screened by dense tree cover and topography.	6.4 km	Very Low	Potentially long term	High	n/a	Nil
R132 Westfalica	Residential dwelling	Views toward the Paling Yards wind turbines are screened by dense tree cover and topography.	7.4 km	Very Low	Potentially long term	High	Low	Nil
R133 The Glenn	Residential dwelling	Views toward the Paling Yards wind turbines are screened by dense tree cover and topography.	7.3 km	Very Low	Potentially long term	High	Low	Nil
R134 Cows with	Residential dwelling	Views toward the Paling Yards wind turbines are screened by dense tree cover and topography.	2.9 km	Very Low	Potentially long term	High	Low	Nil

We reject the proposal where it states that Obstacle lighting is required, which will be used during the night to light up the turbines. Any obstacle or ground lighting – we would find this a visual deterrent and would disrupt our night time view.

We are avid star gazers and use the dark night sky to see that off the stars above. Having obstacle or turbine up-lights may affect the ambient lighting from our property which will have immediate effect on star gazing. There would be 55 proposed obstacle or turbine lights which would be highly visible from our property would have a significant impact on our view.

Being only located 2.9kms from the closest turbine, the obstacle lighting will appear bigger and brighter than the example shown below.

See example image supplied of the effect that turbine obstacle lighting will have on our view from 3.5kms away:



DAY TIME VIEW FROM HUME HIGHWAY TOWARD CULLERIN WIND FARM AT AROUND 3.5KM



CULLERIN WIND FARM AT AROUND 3.5KM

CULLERIN WIND FARM NIGHT TIME LIGHTING . VIEW WEST FROM HUME HIGHWAY AT AROUND 3.5KM DISTANCE. Figure 34 Night Lighting Cullerin wind farm at 3.5km We reject the proposal where is states a proposal for three (3) southern corridor options for high transmission power lines. In the proposal is it referenced that the following options are being proposed:

- Option 1 high visibility transmission power lines to run through Golspie.
- Option 2 high visibility transmission power lines to run between Golspie and Curraweela
- Option 3 high visibility transmission power lines to run down the embankment through Abercrombie River and up through Tanjenong (Property ID R29) and along the Taralga Road through to Crookwell.

We would like to request that the above 3 options be REMOVED from the proposed plan and be considered as an unviable option. Also taking into consideration the amount of native flora that would need to be clears and fauna relocated during the development clearing, we believe this would have a massive and adverse impact on the local area.

Option 1,2 and 3 would see high transmission power lines impact our beautiful view as shown in the photo below:



We reject any of the proposed connection points as referenced below:



We reject any request to have a power substation located within a 5 kilometre radius of Property R128.

We reject any proposal to have any high visibility transmission power lines to be visible from our property.



We are rejecting the proposal for Paling Yard Wind Farm because of the way in which we utilise the river for our personal use and that of our potential guests.

Our understanding is that there is a request to draw water from the Abercrombie River to assist with the creation of cement for the site. As the Abercrombie River flows through our property and the river is resident to platypus, trout and other marine wild life and the fact that we use the river as a local watering hole for swimming during the warmer months, we believe there will be a significant impact to the quality of water in the river if the proposed development site was to continue, especially with water being drawn and potential contamination caused by rain water run-off from the development site into the Abercrombie River. A photo is shown below of us using the waterhole for swimming is below:



We reject any request that Bummeroo Ford Camp site be used as 'Vehicle Based Camp Site' – Bummeroo Ford Camp site is a very popular location for families and holiday campers to stay on weekends, public holidays and holiday periods – having a 'Vehicle Based Camp Site at this location will affect this site being used for its original intent of a camp site if it's to be converted into a location for construction vehicles to be parked.

Please see the comments on the National Parks and Wildlife website for the comments of people staying at the camping grounds (<u>http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/abercrombie-river-national-park/bummaroo-ford-campground/camping</u>) – please note the highlighted comments in the image below of satisfied campers using this facility:



We reject the proposal due to risks of electromagnetic interference caused from the wind farm turbines – our television reception comes from the north-west from Orange which is in the direct path of the proposed turbine locations. We also believe that mobile phone reception may also be impacted for which it is important to have quality mobile phone reception available in the event of an emergency, for us and for guests.

We reject the proposal due to potential issues caused to health due to their existence. We would also like to understand if there any statistical evidence to suggest that any health issues such as effects to epilepsy, tinnitus or imbalance can be caused by the close proximity of the wind turbines and their effects to humans.

We reject the proposal due to potential noise travelling with the strong winds from a north, north-westerly direction. We would also like to understand the noise impact to our property in more detail. With the wind directions usually coming from the west and north-west, we believe that the noise caused by the turbines will be able to be heard if the wind is blowing in the direction of our property.

We have been advised that due the construction requirements of the building materials being delivered from the Goulburn Direction to the proposed development site that there is a requirement to have the road widened down the step decent of Taralga Road which borders our property. As the nature of the landscape is very steep, we have been advised that earth moving works will be required to cut into the boundary of our property to allow the road to be widened – this of course will take months or development work of jack hammering and cutting of the rock to sufficiently widen the road to accommodate trucks to pass. We've been advised that the legal decent for trucks to descend is 4 degrees however the decent on Taralga Road is current 5 degrees. Any development work will definitely have an impact on us while living there and the impact to our property boundaries to accommodate this requirement.

We reject any access or use of our property in the event land is required to widen the road; suitable compensation should be discussed in the event this is required moving forward.

Please see image below showing the road width and the excavation that would need to be required to our property.



We also reject any request to have a 'Visitor Viewing Platform' outside our front gate or within any view directly from our house – this is due to privacy as we would like this maintained and not affected by onlookers from a viewing platform from any adjoining property (Tanjenong R29 or otherwise).

We also reject the proposal based on the fact that the Great Dividing Range has significant Heritage value placed on it and this proposed development would sit straight on it's landcape.