

As one of the seven identified residences with potential views of the Proposed Glenellen Solar Development, located within 2 km I am writing to OPPOSE this development.

Although I am supportive of clean green energy, I feel this development has identified a landscape that is capable of so much more, and that a better geographical location should have been sort.

I realise that it is within close proximity of the high voltage power lines and the substation, and for that reason it might seem the best place. But I would argue that our land is too productive agriculturally and receives a reliable rainfall. Properties in this area are sort after for agricultural productivity, with prices reaching \$9000/acre for 1000acre holdings in the district.

I feel that instead of offering an exorbitant price to lease the land for 30 years, money could be better spent purchasing the land (or leasing if that fits the companies profile) in areas that:

- Experience drought conditions more frequently than 3-in-10 years. Some rural communities have been coming off the back of three or more years of drought, with that time again needed for businesses to recover off the back of a drought, these large scale properties would benefit from an income, in an unproductive area that they designate, with potentially having no “receptors” in a 5km buffer from the site. I feel that a development footprint implicating 277 identified receptors within 5 km, is too many; and that there are better alternatives.

During these recent times of hardship and drought across Australia, this Murray region in Greater Hume shire was one of the only pockets of NSW that had been able to produce crops and fodder surplus to our needs, and able to offer relief to other agricultural enterprises. I believe that has a lot to say about the importance and productivity of this land. One only needs to look into the stocking rates that the proposed property has been running, to comparably see how productive the proposed site is.

Other reasons why I believe this project should be undertaken on a different site, is the thick fog that settles in Glenellen through our winters, the exact reason why the Albury airport, which was proposed to be on the adjoining property to the proposed site, did not go ahead.

I do not know whether dense fog affects the energy production of these solar panels, but what does concern me is the public safety aspect of the increased traffic and heavy vehicles traversing the proposed route, especially Glenellen Road. I am concerned for the school children and parents that board and un-board children onto the numerous buses that use this route, in fine weather let alone fog. I am concerned for the vast groups and solo cyclist that enjoy taking the Glenellen scenic route. And I am concerned that the road was not formed to withstand this vehicle pressure, volume or weight. The road is narrow, tree lined and visibility often poor, I’m also not looking forward to any inconvenience this amount of traffic, “anticipated that up to a maximum peak of 153 vehicle movements will be made per day to access the GSF Site” will have to locals.

I am worried that in its current proposed location the increased water shed, and reduced ground cover (caused by diminished pasture, formed tracks, earthworks and tree clearing at the site), decreased water infiltration and increased run-off will further exacerbate any water-logging, salinity issues or erosion to the landscape.

I am further disappointed about the location of the project because of a personal bias, being an adjoining neighbour and farming the land around, we are also owners and part owners in 5 of the

residence in the 2km proximity. These panels, raised to 5m, I believe will be clearly visible not only from a great portion of our property, but also our residence which sits at an elevated position. Not only am I concerned about the visual aspect, I am also worried about the solar project declining our land and property value.

The visual defacing of the landscape makes me quite emotional, I hold dear and embrace the idea of the great Australia landscape and the feelings it evokes. Our property, settled by my partners forefathers 4 generations ago, was chosen because of its beauty and productive soils. It has been nurtured to nourish people for generations, and the Moll family are extremely passionate about the land, being on the land, the freedoms, the lifestyle it offers, and the values that are accustomed to it, as well as the opportunities it presents for us and our children. The proposed Glenellen Solar farm impacts on that, and as such I am not supportive of this project.

The Moll family have a long-standing reputation in the farming society as being innovative, early adopters, successful and productive, I have seen my partners blood, sweat and tears go into this property and this community for that matter. As farmers and custodians of the land this proposal will impact on us environmentally, socially and economically. The triple bottom line is that I say 'NO' to this development.

Kind regards

Elizabeth O'Grady