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OBJECTION

My family have lived in the Nundle District for 4 generations.

I was born and raised in the Nundle district and the area will always be home to me.

My home at 14 Frederick Street is on a 15-acre block and has stunning 360-degree views of the mountains to the South and East, the Peel Valley to the North and westward out across the village of Nundle and although my wife, kids and I are currently living 45 kilometres away in Kootingal, we intend to relocate back to Nundle to live on my property in the future.

I have strong ties to the area that has been proposed for these turbines having spent a great deal of my youth working, hunting, fishing and camping throughout the whole area. I have also spent many weekends exploring Ben Halls Gap National Park which is located to the East of the proposed area.

My opposition to the wind farm development comes from knowing that all this beautiful country will be detrimentally changed forever, and future generations will not have the opportunity to explore, enjoy and learn about the bush the way that I did. I also feel that they will be an eyesore on this magnificent landscape.

My other concerns about this project are the environmental effects it will have on this important area. As I am sure the reader is aware, the Peel River and all of the smaller tributaries that flow into it in the catchment for Chaffey Dam which is the primary water source for the thriving regional hub of Tamworth.

The risks associated with the wind turbines not only comes from the large amount of grease and oils in each turbine gearbox that has the potential to permanently contaminate this important water source but also with the massive amount of earthworks required for installation of the turbines, towers and the many access roads that will be needed to traverse this very difficult terrain.

I do not believe that wind turbines are an efficient method of renewable energy as they take an incredible amount of energy to be manufactured as well as enormous resource usage whilst being installed. Then there is the removal of the turbines and rehabilitation of the landscape which once again will take huge amounts of energy to complete. This will require the use of massive cranes, excavators, bulldozers and trucks all being powered by diesel.

I feel that any possible gains made through the usage of renewable energy generated by these turbines will be negated by the amount of CO₂ that will be emitted into the atmosphere and the energy usage during the manufacturing process and in the construction and erection phases of this project.

I note that the ENGIE ANZ suggests that there will be over 200 direct jobs created during the construction phase and 30 permanent jobs after completion of the project. I would suggest that ENGIE ANZ will have already have a construction company in mind for the erection of the turbines who will in turn already have their own skilled

workers. I have firsthand knowledge of the skillsets needed when working for large construction companies and there are very few unskilled labourers used, almost all will have numerous operating tickets from large machinery to working at heights skills. Riggers and crane operators are obviously going to play a huge part in this project and workers with these specific skills will not be sourced from the village of Nundle.

Will the company describe the 30 permanent jobs that will be required once the project is completed?

Will these workers be required to live in Nundle itself and contribute to the community as it will be this community that is going to be affected by this project?

I have been told of one worker that is employed by the Glen Innes wind farm project that actually lives in Tamworth some 200 kilometres away and travels back to Glen Innes when needed.

If these 30 permanent positions are not required to live in Nundle and become a part of the community then where is the benefit for Nundle and its residents that are about to have their beautiful landscape changed forever.

I sincerely hope that my opposition to this wind turbine project is clear and that there will be no beneficial outcomes for either the environment or for the Nundle district and it is quite clear that the only people that will benefit from this project will be the shareholders of ENGIE ANZ and the owner of the land that has been proposed as the optimum site.

I am all for finding a new cleaner energy source but do not believe that these wind turbines are the answer.

Thank you

Yours sincerely Nick.