

Name: Graham WATERS

Address: 'Trig Hill' 686 Gara Road, Armidale, NSW, 2350

Dear Minister

**SSD No. Oxley Solar Farm Armidale  
No. 10346**

I am **objecting** strongly to the Oxley Solar Farm SSD 1036 on the following grounds:

1. **Fire hazard.** Proximity to the Wild Rivers National Parks & bush fire prone areas. We all know about how rapidly fires spread and those most affected have no protection. According to the NSW Rural Fire Service this land is bush fire prone land. How can an out of control fire be stopped with over 700,000 panels in the way? I have fought many fires in my time here and I know that they travel at speed and are hard to take control of. This will effect neighbouring properties. This is a huge risk to local land owners. I am unsure how a 1000L pod will be used to stop an out of control blaze. Do you realise that this place is located out of town? It takes 10 plus minutes for someone to arrive on site. In this time the land has been destroyed.
2. **Damage to Aboriginal Heritage.** An obvious point to my knowledge. There has been many sites that have been sighted here. One of which I was able to view. This land was a major area for Aboriginals to gather and they also walked from the coast through the gorge to Armidale along these properties. There would be many sites here and to think that they could be destroyed by developing the land for panels. How is this showing any kind of respect to our country?
3. **Incompatible landuse.** This affects all landholders currently trying to make a living from the land. Surely the loss of prime agricultural land has to be a huge consideration in the selection site? It seems extremely irresponsible to select prime agricultural land for the site of Oxley Solar Farm. I am also concerned about the cumulative impact this will have on our land. There are several solar farms being proposed and some of these have been approved. Taking this land to use for farms is irresponsible. What will our farms look like in the future? We will have no farming land left. We cannot take produce from outside the country we need to support our local farmers. Supporting a foreign company is not supporting local.

**Signed:** Graham Waters

**Dated:** 10 April 2021