

14/2/22 [J Bird]

Objection to Project Energy Connect 40021 (NSW Eastern Section)

I object to this project on the following grounds:

- Just this morning on the ABC radio they carried a story (from WA) about solar power, and the fact that the solar companies were having to reject the solar energy put into the system **from private homes because they can't cope with the volume.** Yet we are setting up more and more solar farms? It does not make sense.
- The whole globe is being influenced by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and their "silk road" expansion known as their Belt and Road initiative, whereby they are investing in around 70 countries and global organisations. Ultimately, we will probably lose any modicum of control we might have been promised, as they have taken it from other countries in the form of debt for equity swaps, mortgage foreclosure, call it what you want.
- This IS a matter of national security.
- I am against more investment in our nation by the CCP. We have enough influence in our governments now as they all act like the CCP in making laws and restricting Australians.
- These projects run roughshod over people in the regions. Like the water situation, where bureaucrats run meetings at busy farming times of the year, and get paid for it when those living in the area have to listen and make application ON TOP OF what they already do. This is not fair, and there has not been enough consideration or discussion.
- In fact, there should be an inquiry into why this should go ahead. I do not believe it is in the interests of people in regional NSW, no matter how much they sell the idea. In the end, we are going to run up against that same problem as reported this morning.
- The EIS is totally flawed. It leaves the local ratepayers to pick up the bill for cleaning up, as the local councils will have to deal with the landfill.
- The EIS makes no provision for the project managers (or CCP) not meeting their obligations.
- There is much talk about how solar will need to be recycled, and at the present time, there is no ability to do this, notwithstanding there may be in years to come. However, these huge projects should not be allowed to go ahead without such provision.
- It makes FAR MORE SENSE to give subsidies to home-owners to put solar on their roofs than it does for these multinational corporations to rape and pillage. Corporate conglomerates are raping and pillaging the world over, and are bigger than some countries economies, so they just up and leave their mess.
- Let us be much smarter – invest and give solar subsidies to OUR RESIDENTS, not these corporations, much less with CCP ties (which is often hard to discern in any case).
- Our agricultural land is being set up to be polluted with heavy metals, and there is a gross loss of income to our regional economies because there has been no SIGNIFICANT

evaluation of this – and deliberately so, I believe, as this seems to be the way bureaucrats, politicians and governmental departments steam-roll because they are feted by these corporations, either knowingly for personal gain, or unknowingly if they are too stupid to understand. All the more reason to invest in OUR local people and small businesses.

- No consideration is being given to the creation of heat islands in local communities, and the effect that has on crops and the standard of living for those living here. This would be while the CCP and mates live somewhere else, leaving a few sheep to graze our “weeds”, which have been mostly disasters to date.
- Our good agricultural land is being used up, where these projects could be put out in the middle of a desert, and leave the arable land alone.
- I believe there needs to be an inquiry into this, not the facilitation of a smooth path to something we who live out here will live to regret.