

Ms Fiona Hayward

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SUBMISSION: Walla Walla Solar - MOD 2 - Project Layout Changes

As a fourth generation Australian farmer, I object to the proposed modifications of Walla Walla Solar Electricity Generating Works. The Greater Hume farming community is a highly productive area, and with food security more vital now than ever before, it is imperative that planning and approvals of renewable energy projects take into account the importance of safeguarding Australia's irreplaceable arable land.

I object to the following proposed modifications:

- **Construction of an additional vehicle crossing over Back Creek within the project site:**
An additional crossing over Back Creek interferes with & will potentially contaminate the Murray River catchment – the Murray River system is already a shameful example of Australia's lack of ability to manage and care for precious natural resources. Further developments that impact the Murray catchment should not be approved until a sounder management plan is developed for the Catchment.
- **Clearing of an additional 0.137 ha of native vegetation, to accommodate this crossing:**
In addition to the issues with the crossing of potential contamination of the Murray Catchment, the clearing of additional native vegetation should not be allowed. Varying the Walla Walla development from its original footprint could have unforeseen effects on local ecosystems, flora and fauna. The proposed development footprint within the site is approximately 421 ha & was designed to largely avoid key constraints, including on-site watercourses & farm dams, remnant native vegetation...." Quote:- NSW DPIE Walla Walla Solar Farm State Significant Development Assessment SSD 9874 Sept 2020. See ipcn.nsw.gov.au
- **An increase in the solar array and development footprint, of approximately 15.4 ha, within the existing project boundary = a further 50,000 Solar panels - Totalling 700,000:**
See my comments on the above point, and additionally: There is No Strategic Plan for Agriculture in NSW. This is Required Prior to Energy Transition Approvals, therefore, I feel a moratorium is needed to protect/establish the Important Agricultural, Land State Significant Land and necessary DPI Mapping.
There is a failure By the Federal & NSW Governments to Consider, Assess and Research the Toxic Contamination Risk to food resources, land & water sources during the Operational Life of the Solar Works - when - besides sterilisation of the soil & the contaminating impacts to our food bowl from broken, storm/hail fractured, fire damaged & inferior Solar panels - **there is now evidence that serious toxins leak from the join point & wiring of the Solar**

panel as a normal, undamaged Solar panel ages on site (See Professor Ian Plimer 'Green Murder.') Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley also acknowledges:- "Solar is a looming contamination disaster.... where dumped panels may leak heavy-metal chemicalscontaminating the environment & our fragile soil."
The Cumulative Impacts of this project in Greater Hume Shire are Completely Unacceptable -

- **An increase in the peak daily total number of heavy vehicle numbers accessing the site from 45 to 110:** Increasing peak daily vehicle numbers from 45 to 110 is unacceptable. It is the complete opposite of FRV's claims to reduce emissions & reliance on fossil fuels. Also again, regarding cumulative impacts, this proposed modification more than doubles the amount of vehicular traffic every day: this presents more risk of vehicle accidents, doubles the hazard to local wildlife, creates additional noise pollution, and will double the risk of invasive weeds/pest plants being transported on and off-site.

I respectfully submit the above, and reiterate that I object to **Walla Walla Solar - MOD 2 - Project Layout Changes** for the above reasons.

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Without ill-will, vexation, or frivolity.

Fiona Hayward

16th May 2022