

Name withheld
Address withheld
Kentucky NSW 2354

17th May 2022

Director – Energy Assessments
Development Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Thunderbolt Wind Farm SSD-18087896

I am writing to OBJECT to the abovementioned proposal for the reasons included in the table below and I declare that I have not made any reportable political donations during the past two years.

Aspect	Objection
Landscape, visual and shadow flicker	The EIS is showing that shadow flicker doesn't travel any further than 2900 metres. Is this plausible given the towers are between me and the sun?
Noise and vibration	<p>Neon predicts that when it comes to noise from its 260 metre, 5 MW turbines it will stop just before our house. This is difficult to believe. On any given clear night or morning we can plainly hear Kyabra dogs barking and they stand less than a metre from the ground! Neoen have adjusted the statistics to suit their needs and, in an attempt to comply with the government requirements.</p> <p>Drilling, blasting, crushers, concrete mixers, trucks, bulldozers and other heavy machinery along with 96 turbine blades @ 95 m long spinning on 32 towers and together, there is no noise?</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Why conserve the Koala population? Why conserve the pigmy possum habitat? Why conserve the squirrel gliders nest? Why conserve the Bush Stone Curlew and Bluegrass? Why conserve the Bendemeer White Gum-Silvertop-Stringybark-Rough-barked Apple and Moonbi Apple Box grassy open forest? Why conserve Youmans Stringybark-Mountain Gum open forest? Why conserve the White-throated Needle-tail? Why conserve the Border thick-tailed gecko? Why conserve the Bells Turtle?</p> <p>Because, if these have been nominated by our government as critically endangered, they probably are!</p>

Traffic and transport	<p>I am concerned about my son who catches the school bus on the New England Highway. An increase in traffic volume will not help the already narrow crowded and dangerous road.</p> <p>At the entrance to our property there is critical narrowing, a build-up of traffic and congestion along with the added cumulative impact of increasing roadworks. Any extra increase traffic volume from wind turbine traffic will make an already unsafe road totally chaotic for our son and his school bus!</p>
Aboriginal cultural heritage	<p>The proposal to start bulldozing then using management methodologies for sites with limited consultation with our local people shows how poor Neon community engagement has been.</p>
Aviation safety	<p>Aerial fire fighters will not put fixed winged aircraft and helicopter operators in danger by utilising aircraft while firefighting.</p> <p>The Westpac Rescue Helicopter operates on this section of the New England Highway regularly due to high fatalities. With the increase of wind turbine movements this will only add to the traffic influx increasing movements and more accidents. Pilot, crew and patient safety will be compromised and the risk will increase due to the many aerial obstacles.</p>
Telecommunications	<p>The EIS confirms our television reception will be impacted as the wind turbines will be directly between the Narrabri tower and our house. The response from Neon to this problem is they will mitigate! How?</p> <p>We rely heavily on phone and internet to conduct our business and work to be effective. Neoen cannot guarantee that the mobile network for mobiles, home phone and internet access will not be affected. All our services are from the mobile tower 3 kilometres from the wind towers. The response from Neon to this problem is they will mitigate. How?</p> <p>As the EIS states, that either a letter has been sent with no response received or they were attempting to make contact. I find this totally inadequate. They haven't done their job properly by not following up!</p> <p>The ability for my son to do his school projects, homework and recreation using the internet will be severely affected.</p> <p>6 telecommunications were not even contacted with 18 consultation letters sent to telecommunications companies with only two replies does this mean the correspondence was poorly written and therefore a response was not needed or was the correspondence extremely well written to ensure there was no response?</p>
Electromagnetic Field levels and Health	<p>I am worried about my family's health and wellbeing it is the cumulative effect of 32 Turbines together to produce an increased level of Electromagnetic Field (EFM) in the area that will be a problem</p>

	<p>particularly for those living in the local environment. What in the EIS is considered a 'publicly exposed location'?</p>
Bushfire	<p>No fixed wing aircraft or helicopter will go anywhere near a 260-metre-tall Wind Turbine when a bushfire is on its way to threaten our house and the Kentucky community. These towers take out one less means to fight a fire.</p>
Blade throw	<p>I cannot understand why this is mentioned if it isn't a risk as indicated in EIS.</p> <p>There is no mention or consideration for the safety of station hands and families in our community who live on the Kyabra property.</p> <p>As was stated in the EIS, a blade throw event would occur once every 310,000 years while over speeding. If the Turbine operated normally, it would be a once in 3,100 years event! How was this measured?</p> <p>Not all non-associated dwellings have been considered in the EIS report.</p>
Water and soils	<p>I have been actively involved in farm management and have been using regenerative and holistic practices over the last 40 years. I do like to promote these ideas to others in order keep our landscape intact so those downstream are affected positively and have the best quality water.</p> <p>At Kyabra (the project area), a long standing holistic and regenerative practice was implemented by the previous owners, where soil and water quality were very important. However, it is now under Chinese ownership, and these practices are no longer being used. As Kyabra is at the top of the catchment at high elevation, everything you do here affects those downstream. This water flows west into the Murray Darling River System.</p> <p>The EIS states a number of creeks and watercourses will be crossed and uses the argument that disturbance is minor compared the overall size of the project. This could be no further from the truth as can be seen by any flooding event where the water route is changed and manipulated through roads, roadworks, disturbed vegetation and soil will and result in a quagmire.</p> <p>As stated by Neoen in their EIS, there are areas prone to erosion, and Neoen's lack of experience in our New England soils and landscapes is being clearly demonstrated when they state they will fix these problems through the implementation of sediment and erosion control using a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and an OEMP (which they fail to define). This process is flawed, as work will need to begin before a proper workable plan can be designed. If work begins with rain and flooding occurring, the CEMP and the</p>

	implementation of sediment and erosion control will be totally useless due to the quagmire created!
Waste Management	Why is there waste management involved? Is Neoen stating that this project is not clean and green? Not having a decommissioning fund speaks for itself.
Air quality	<p>The purchase of my land was based around air quality and visual amenity. My family suffer from asthma and chest infections, the area was perfect for their health and needs.</p> <p>We have gone through the worst drought in history where air quality was appalling from dust blown in from western NSW. Our winds blow predominately from the west. I believe that 55 kilometres of new 9 m wide gravel roadways on Kyabra (to the west of our property) – a property that normally has 100% ground cover, and subject to westerly winds, will cause a significant negative impact on us.</p>
Economic impact	Our land values will significantly decrease due to wind towers. Our property would be less desirable due noise and visual amenity if stage 1 and 2 of the projects commenced. Animals are reportedly to be less healthy when near and exposed to Electromagnetic Magnetic Radiation.
Social impact	<p>So far NEON has:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Divided the community. 2. Created neighbourhood tension 3. Indicated to many Kentucky community members including the elderly that the wind farm is a done deal. 4. Allowed the Community Consultation Committee to believe that it is a done deal and have some committee members believe they don't need to talk to anyone in the community.
Cumulative impact	The cumulative impact of 590 wind Turbine proposals in the southern New England area will be felt by everyone who visits, lives, works and drives through the tablelands. Whether it is be from noise, traffic congestion visual amenity, the destruction and maintenance of roads and their bases, birdlife, animal habitat destruction, the breakdown of wildlife corridors, the erosion of land, the redirection of water through the landscape, turbidity polluting our waterways, the destruction of cultural heritage, endangered species and threatened ecosystems.
Community consultation	<p>If it wasn't for their meetings with the turbine host group, there would have been next no community consultation.</p> <p>Neoen's community liaison officer was quick to publicly state that the Thunderbolt Wind Farm was a done deal, and nothing could stop the project. This is the same person who has not declared a conflict of interest, as her family members are part of the host landholder group.</p> <p>The majority of public have been kept in the dark with little or no knowledge about the wind turbine proposal. Neoen has been extremely poor when it has come to informing the public!</p>

	A drop-in information session was conducted at a local Uralla coffee shop in the middle of COVID and that was considered informing the public!
Human and livestock health	If we cannot protect endangered species, why are we worried about Human and livestock health!

I maintain my right to the quiet enjoyment of our home and property. I also maintain that it is not acceptable for Neoen to use our property as their buffer zone.

As a direct and immediate neighbour with the Thunderbolt Wind Farm on Kyabra, I have not been consulted with by Neoen. This type of treatment by a large 'professional' companies is unacceptable, and illustrates that they are not fit to conduct business in Australia or NSW.

I look forward to the refusal of the Thunderbolt Wind Farm proposal.

Kind regards,

Name withheld,
BSc Geology (Hon)