

Christopher 'Kit' Dawson
200 Burtons Lane
Kentucky South NSW 2354
kitshipra@gmail.com

23rd 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 write to **object** to the above mentioned proposal. Reasons include but are not limited to the contents of the table below:

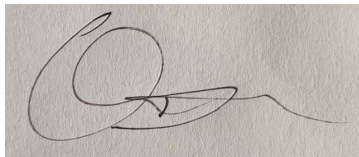
Aspect	Objection
Bushfire	<p>Neoen has not fully considered the impacts of 270 metre wind towers on an extremely bushfire prone environment.</p> <p>The proposed development, being to the West of the main village of Kentucky will mean that firefighting aircraft will become unable to effectively cover a large area, of extremely high risk. The West being from where the prevailing winds occur.</p> <p>The developer has stated that turbines would be “Switched Off” should there be a bushfire, but a static 270 metre turbine poses the same risk to aircraft as a rotating turbine due to its height and wind conditions, and requires the same level of avoidance.</p> <p>This will place many homes and farms at risk, and the potential for loss of life is not insignificant.</p>
Water and soils	<p>The massive foundations required to support the proposed 270 metre turbines (2,990 tonnes per turbine), will drastically impact the local hydrology and change the character of the land. The underground flow of water shapes the terrestrial farming environment.</p> <p>Areas that are currently productive, could suffer from loss of groundwater; or conversely become unusable swamps. You can't farm sheep in the desert or in a swamp.</p>

Cumulative impact	<p>The EIS for this proposal does not address cumulative impacts adequately. What will be the cumulative impacts of the 590+ towers proposed in our area?</p> <p>Neoen's EIS does not adequately take into account the combined impact of it's own plans, and those of neighbouring proposed wind farm developments.</p> <p>Around 590 towers are proposed for the area, which threatens to permanently, and unalterably impact on what is now a beautiful and very productive rural environment.</p> <p>The term "Wind Farm" is being used to gloss over what can only realistically be described as a 'Mega Factory', with a far greater impact on the skyline alone than all the the tall buildings in Sydney (many times over!!).</p>
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I am not in any way opposed to renewable energy development, so long as it is considered and "Green" in more than name. The development of micro-grids, would provide greater energy security for NSW, and for Australia as a whole. This option would also remove the need for an increase in "poles and wires" infrastructure.

If indeed large scale wind power is required to be produced in this area, for consumption by City dwellers; then due consideration should be given to vertical axis turbines, that do not have the inherent problems associated with tall horizontal axis generators. These vertical axis generators could be easily sited along the railway corridor, that connects this area with Sydney. This option would not require the destruction of farmland, and natural areas set aside for wildlife. Smaller vertical axis turbines would not require new road development, nor would they require such substantial concrete foundations. The transfer of power could be accomplished below ground, along the existing rail route. Another advantage would be that the (smaller) vertical axis turbines could be transported, placed, and maintained by utilising the existing rail infrastructure. This approach would make NSW (And Australia) world leaders, rather than followers of an already doomed path.

Yours sincerely,



Christopher 'Kit' Dawson