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Director Energy Assessments  
Planning, Industry & Environment  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

**Re: Objection to proposed Jindera Solar Farm (SSD – 9549)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Impact Statement prepared by NGH Pty Ltd on behalf of Jindera Solar Farm Pty Ltd dated September 2019.

I, Stephanie Klein, declare that I have never made a donation to any political party.

The Jindera Solar Farm proposal is located in the north-east Riverina of NSW, approximately 3 km north of the township of Jindera. The proposal is located in a regional setting. The surrounding land use is generally agriculture, including cropping and grazing. This area has been a highly productive and secure agricultural resource since its settlement in the 1860's. Currently, with so many regions in New South Wales drought declared, In Greater Hume Shire Council we have enjoyed both productive cropping and grazing. Looking from my window I can see the proposed site is covered by both silage and hay bales. Surely it is foolhardy to use these productive areas for power generation when they are so much better suited to food generation.

We are a huge country of so many diverse types of land. Whilst I strongly support the development of alternative energy sources, of which solar would seem an extremely viable option there are vast areas of land of minimal agricultural value that could, and should, be used for this purpose. There are so many areas that are far more suitable than one of the most productive and sustainable food producing regions in the state. We are already losing prime agricultural land to the urban sprawl on the fringes of towns and cities, please, let us not compound this problem. It seems to me we need to take a step back and consider the long term implications and results of this proposal. Marginal agricultural land with less reliable rainfall would seem to be a much more sensible placement of solar farms.

We have been told that more than 200 established trees are to be removed from the site. The trees provide nesting sites and corridors for birds, squirrel gliders and other wildlife. We see kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas, tortoise, wombats, possums on our property and travelling across roads in our immediate neighbourhood. Where is this wildlife to go? Dams are to be filled in, surely this will increase water runoff leading to erosion and flooding.

I am concerned heat island effect will adversely impact and cause heat transmission onto my property. As I understand the EIS they have relied on international studies and there are no cited Australian studies on the heat island effect. It may not be relevant to transfer these results to localised conditions. Once the project is established it will be too late. How will high quality pasture be grown under the arrays (as

proposed by the host)? top soil will be removed during construction and the longer term issues of pasture viability and improvement, weed control, adequate moisture delivery and retention for pasture growth, and increased heat need to be addressed.

My home is directly across from the proposed solar development (R19) and is acknowledged to be amongst those suffering the highest impact from the solar plant's construction phase and continued presence. My greatly appreciated view of scattered trees, paddocks and stock will be lost to me forever. I have always treasured the openness of my rural aspect. The proposed mitigation measures do not satisfy me at all. Mass plantings of tube stock trees, shade cloth attached to high security fences and earthen bunkers will destroy the outlook I so enjoy.

The loss of visual amenity from my home is distressing to me and will impact greatly on my quality of life and the value of my property. The value of which will markedly decrease, thus causing financial concerns in our approaching retirement.

The construction phase is something I dread, proposed to be eleven hours per weekday and five hours Saturday morning. Noise levels predicted by the EIS to be quite high, increased dust and lighting and traffic. Apparently, the company will consult with me, but really, what are they going to do? Presently noise here consists of occasional cars on the road, a tractor in the distance, birdsong and mainly, just quiet. It's a very quiet area. Now.

It seems that convenient and cost effective access to transmission lines and the existing sub station is the driver for the foreign companies proposing solar farms in Jindera, Glenellen, Walla Walla and Culcairn. Obviously, profitability is a major factor for these companies, but surely the well being of the land and nearby residents must be strongly considered.

In conclusion, I am strongly opposed to the proposed Jindera Solar Farm development for the above reasons and I would ask that those making the decision would consider my situation and objections.

Yours sincerely

Stephanie Klein