RYE PARK WIND FARM D455/17

This is a submission against the Wind Farm Project

The R.P.R.E. Topographical map shown in the assessment report is misleading, depicting a relative small area comprising of the 109 turbines. The map gives no indication of the area taken up by the 741 turbines which are already operating, approved, or proposed within 80 kilometres of Rye Park. I believe this is a saturation of turbines in a relative small area of the Southern Tablelands.

Socio Economics

It is claim 815 Mw hours or power for 2,000 homes will be generate per year, reducing greenhouse gases. As turbines don't work all the time, (34% by Trust powers own admission) cold power turbines will have to be in full operation mode to provide for unpredictable shortages therefore no reduction in greenhouse gases. Japan will open in excess of 30 cold powered plants in the near future all fuelled with Australian coal. Why can't we use our coal to provide us with reliable, constant and cheaper power at the flick of a switch?

5.3 Biodiversity

R.P.R.E. has provision to micro site turbines a distance of 200 metres to reduce impacts on biodiversity, but shifting turbines could have a big impact on the big picture as roads and other infrastructure would be changed as well. The proposal is to clear 254 hectares of native vegetation. If a private land holder were to clear a much smaller area then this they would be held accountable to the EPA and other bodies. R.P.R.E. are also to prepare a bird and bat management plan, and a biodiversity strategy how would this save birds including Eagles and bats .Once they are gone they are gone forever.

5.4 Traffic and Transport

We live on the northern side of a gravel road approximately 200 metres from the roads edge. Given the estimated traffic movements by R.P.R.E. of 152 heavy vehicles and 400 light vehicles one way equalling a total of 1,104 movements daily , depending on the wind direction during the construction stage I anticipate dust from excessive traffic to impact on our residence, I note there is no provision to combat this problem in the R.P.R.E proposal.

5.5 Other Issues

Aviation Safety: a large area of this proposed wind farm, in the event of a bush fire is inaccessible by ground requiring aerial water bombing. Given that the turbines don't just run in a straight line north south direction they branch out along any suitable ridge or spur. This will seriously inhibit aerial support, as to be effective the planes fly just above tree height and below turbine height. To fly above turbine height would make target areas much harder to hit assuming the water did not evaporate before hitting the ground.

Property Values

I have spoken with several Real Estates agents who tell me that property values within 10 kilometres of a wind farm could drop by up to 60%. This is real value not valuer general baseline values, as used by R.P.R.E.

Riparian Areas and Erosion risk

This project describes the area as "generally steep with granite outcrops and soils that have high erosion potential ". The northern, north eastern, north western, central and intermediate sections are all shale and slate, no granite as is stated. There is very little top soil on the higher country, and in general these soil types are extremely poor. Having lived in the area since 1985 I have found that once the soil on the higher country is disturbed it is extremely hard to establish new grasses and vegetation to prevent soils eroding. This becomes a long term battle that continues for many years.

We request that our names and address not be published Thankyou