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**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Jindera Solar development SSD9549  
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The Chairman  
Inquiry into proposed Solar Farm at Jindera  
Mr. Andrew Hutton  
Inquiry SSD9549

Dear Mr.Hutton,

May I say from the outset that I am not against the production of Solar Energy provided it does not impinge, to their detriment on local communities, particularly when there are other forms of low emission energy production available.

I am particularly opposed to the construction of these enterprises on good arable land such as that existing near Jindera a very attractive and productive part of N.S.W.

As you would be aware only six percent of the Australian land mass is arable compared for example to the U.S.A. where one state alone has more productive land. Then there is Russia, China, New Zealand etc. with more productive land than exists in Australia. (I apologise that figures are from google) but I have had short notice to produce this statement.

A number of scientists and those in the so called Green Movement are suggesting that temperatures in N.S.W. are to rise substantially, as they postulate they have already increased by 1.5 C. over the past several years. They also suggest that this phenomena will decrease the grain growing areas in N.S.W. and Australia overall. (this is despite this years record harvest in N.S.W.) As no one seems to be aware of what areas of N.S.W. are to be most affected surely any government would act on the side of caution and protect all arable land in this state. This would mean not covering it with Industrial solar complexes, ironically named as farms.

Added to those concerns are the following.

1. They do not provide an assured 24 hour power supply even with batteries which have a lot of development yet to take place.
2. With the heavily paid taxpayer subsidies, they do not provide cheap power.
3. Both Federal and State Governments are subsidising this monster in an effort to show who has the greenest credentials when in affect most of the infrastructure is mainly providing jobs overseas and being produced with energy from coal fired generators.
4. I understand from solar developments locally, that the only ones to gain in monetary terms are the land owner and the large mostly international companies who obtain subsidies from government. The local council I understand obtains a commission as a sweetener. It also receives a reward in the way of a few handouts here and there.
5. The companies wishing to initiate the industrial solar complex promote the idea that the complex will create jobs. How far from the truth is that? In the area in which I live most of the construction is carried out by backpackers and when the construction is completed it would be unusual if more than a few jobs were ongoing.
6. Although the contract between the land owner and the developer would contain a clause that upon the useful life of the complex being over, the panels etc. would be removed by the developer, recycled or disposed of in a suitable manner. Given the international origins of most of these companies I cannot see this happening. My prophecy is,



particularly where these companies are continually changing hands at great profit bought on by profligate government spending (please refer to 'The Australian' November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Page14 heading "Elliot draws curtain on solar assets"), some companies will renege and expensive legal battles will be fought with the land owner. Because the landowner will not be able to cover the expense, at that time they will declare bankruptcy. The mess will then be left to ratepayers to remedy. Another concern is that many panels are not lasting ten years and these will no doubt end up in the local land fill. As I understand it, there are no recycling plants yet established in Australia. I also add the risk of more predicted violent thunderstorms suggested by scientists. What happens to land with broken glass interred in it? Without expensive remedial action the land is useless.

My suggestion is that when an expression of interest in developing a solar complex is put forward, that a substantial deposit be left with the Local Government impacted or with the state government that will cover all affected parties, particularly the ratepayers of the particular shire or city. I am sure with the resources available to government a suitable formula could be developed.

I apologise for the lateness of my submission and for its length. However I thank you in advance for your patience as I am sure you have heard all of this before.

Yours Sincerely  
Noel Hicks.