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To: [IPCEN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Jindera Solar Farm Public Meeting 27/11/20 Additional comments
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Dear Commissioners Andrew Hutton and Professor Zada Lipman

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.
I will add some points that I couldn't fit into my allotted time today.

Decommissioning:

The Department says the site could be returned to agriculture uses after the project is decommissioned and the agriculture capability of the land wouldn't be effected. How do they know that? The first solar farm in Australia was built in 2012 on a wheat farm in Western Australia. A large scale solar project has never been decommissioned in Australia!

What about soil contamination? Toxic PV Solar Panels contain carcinogenic cadmium, lead and other substances, which rainwater can simply wash into the soil from fractured panels.

In the Development consent, I find it uncertain that with in 18 months of cessation of operations, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The solar farm infrastructure is to be decommissioned and removed unless the Secretary agrees otherwise. What if the Secretary doesn't want to remove it? I gather that's the Secretary of the Department. There are other development consents where the Secretary has the say.

What if the foreign owned solar company goes broke?
We are living in a world wide pandemic, economic and financial crisis.

What does Jindera get out of this project?
Up to 200 employees for 18 months. Most solar companies take their band of workers from site to site. Only a Hotel in Jindera for accommodation. Albury will be where they'd stay. The Hotel in Ouyen left with a \$125,00 in debt. Contractors in Finley still unpaid 12 months later. Only 5 workers for duration of solar project. We are better off with keeping with agriculture which has a range of jobs associated with it for always. Not just 18 months.
Also, the community benefit fund is like a bribe. In our communities we work together for what we want. No divisions! I can see problems arising with distribution. People close to the project would like to be just as they always have been, enjoying the peaceful countryside without solar projects in their area.

The screenings take 8-10 years to grow. Look at the number of residences effected... 25 within 1 km and 48 within 2 km. Only 4km to Jindera. Glenellen proposed solar only 320m away. So many people effected. Innocent hard working people, now uncertain about their futures and livelihoods. Plus the stress this places on them and their families. Land devaluation would certainly occur. A study isn't needed to find that out!

Fire is just such a huge concern with solar panels and battery station in a populated area. Firefighters are not allowed to enter the project, because of electrocution, entrapment and toxic smoke.

JSF preliminary work begun a few days before landholders notified. That is so disrespectful! People driving along too could see what was happening, so rumours circulated that the Solar Project was going ahead. As if the landholders didn't have enough stress already!

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work vehicle was on a property with out permission. Living with this proposed project for 2 and a half years has taken its toll on many people. Not knowing what's going to happen when?? It's something that doesn't leave you.

I am disappointed that the Walla Walla and Jindera Solar Proposals have been remote. Not everyone can speak and this is our busiest time of the year. Glenellen submissions are due 30th November. I emailed Min. Stokes about this and ticked to have a meeting with him a few weeks ago. No reply. Speaking today and then stopping and emailing the rest, it loses it's effect and my trail of mind. You get a much better idea of what's happening here at a live meeting plus the area hears about it too and can come.

The Department's comments that the potential loss of a small area of agriculture land must be balanced against the Energy targets of Governments. Every piece of agriculture Land is precious! It is making food for Australians and exports. No wonder the Federal Govt has invested heavily in agriculture to recover from COVID! I am concerned there will be a food crisis. Putting large scale solar on agriculture land has to stop! In June 2015, the first Solar project was completed in NSW. It's time NOW to look at other alternatives! IT DOES NOT NEED TO BE LARGE SCALE SOLAR ON AGRICULTURE LAND TO MEET THE NSW ENERGY TARGETS! Roof top solar?? Australia only has one company that makes panels near Adelaide. Perhaps more can start up and more recycling centres set up. Where do all the panels go now that are faulty, damaged, out of date?? Where do all the panels come from? Hundreds of thousands of them for large scale solar? Technology changes so much. I read this week that waste water from Sydney's Malabar Treatment Plant the largest in Australia, will be used to generate biethemane, a clean gas with net zero emissions, will reduce carbon emissions by 5000t /year and power 6,300 homes. COVID has taught us to stay local, to be self sufficient. Not let foreign owned companies lease our land for electricity. I heard on Melbourne talk back radio where a growing number of people are only buying what's made in Australia from Australian products. A letter in yesterday's Border Mail, a lady very upset that Coles have a new pasta product out made in China.

Our whole Shire is a blessed food bowl supporting many others with our products and supporting many businesses in our area. Let us keep it for what it was made for! Out of respect to our German pioneers who came to Jindera and Walla 150 years ago!

Yours sincerely,
Jennifer Jacob



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