

Good afternoon

My name is Olivia Hanel and I am speaking on behalf of my husband Philip, son David and daughter in-law Karen Hanel, we all reside at 100 Klinberg Road Jindera. We came to live here in 1986 purchasing the 42ha (100 acres) vacant land built our home, sheds, cattle yards etc. and we presently run Steers.

The proposed Jindera Solar Farm for Greater Hume Shire would impact us greatly; other residents would also be impacted for similar reasons. The location of this proposed development being only 4km from Jindera and 20km from Albury, and with the possibility of another large scale solar farm Glenellen to be only 320 metres away from the Jindera Solar Farm boundary. Unbelievably Heartbreaking!

We are disappointed that this important public meeting on this issue of the State Significant Large Scale project is not being held locally in our town of Jindera. I understand the Covid Pandemic Restrictions, but these could be lifted given the current situation.

Assessment Report

Important Agricultural land-with the simultaneously push for four large scale solar farms within the Greater Hume Shire, extremely difficult for many as limited protection for Agricultural land for food and fibre. The draft of Riverina Murray Important Agricultural land mapping was on public exhibition through November and December 2018. However the plan is no longer available for Public viewing as it is being revised but continues to be delayed. This new mapping is important.

Land being used (of the 337ha) regarding Agricultural land conveniently change classification 3 downgraded to 4 after Geological testing citing water logged soil.

The four Solar Farm projects being pushed forward in Greater Hume Shire has caused overwhelming documentation for reading given the times of release once again of the Glenellen SF EIS during busy times , especially for the farmers with haymaking and harvest.

Devaluation- as mentioned in the Assessment Report the devaluation of all our properties that join the Jindera Solar Farm site. This has been dismissed again as not being relevant quote “there are no evidence been proven that Solar Farms devalues joining properties”. This statement is a stark reminder that mostly ordinary Australian citizens are shown little respect by larger Business Entities. As we are now retired, our home and land were always going to be our retirement, who wants to live next door to a Large Scale Solar Farm?

Visual impacts-as stated in this report “development has low significant visual impacts’ there is more than low impact. As stated in this report due to boundary trees and vegetation, the existing vegetation at residences, buildings etc., and the vegetation at our residence important windbreaks and fruit trees plantings etc., much of the site is still visible! We do not just live in our home we are country living people and do spend time with farm activities on our property, so we are impacted as many of our neighbours are.

Microclimate 5.1.22 and 23 of the report states microclimate as a result of solar panels (Photovoltaic Heat Island Effect) - lateral temps drop quickly from the perimeter of a solar farm in part due to natural convections, which takes warm air upwards. *There is no allowance for wind, what about a windy day?? Being surrounded by panel’s means a fair chance the temp will be a huge factor for us!

Closing comment

We are concerned about the continued loss of agriculture productivity across Australia, especially within Greater Hume Shire with the four proposed Solar Plant Developments.

Whilst we believe in renewable energy, we do have solar panels installed, maybe the 44,000 houses that are mentioned in the report should have them also, and developments of this scale should be planned in the right locations. The protection of the Agriculture Industry as our future capabilities of supplying food and fibre will prove just as important for the overall economy of Australia as the importance of the implementation of Renewable Energy projects.

Thank you