I strongly object to the Jindera solar farm for the following reasons.

1. Exploitation of arable farming land for the benefit of Hanwha Energy who stand to make a lot of money from this $168 million dollar development which is purely financially driven. If they were genuine environmentalist they would locate where the land is not arable and spend their profits in transmitting energy to the main grid.They have no understanding of farming in this district or respect for Prime Agricultural Land. The combined solar projects in the Greater Hume Shire are using up to 2,300 hectares of Prime Farming Land used for cropping, sheep and cattle farming.
2. Out of the 109 submissions received 88% objected and just 10% supported it. There are 25 residences within 1 km of the solar panels with one place a mere 320 metres away from thousands of solar panels. The glare and heat emitted from these solar panels will detract future residents to this area. The movement of heavy vehicles is a huge concern as there is already a steady flow of traffic along the Walla – Jindera – Albury road and the road is not suited to heavy vehicles already broken up in some parts.
3. The construction of 390,500 solar panels will do more harm to the environment through excessive carbon emissions from the large number of truck movements over the 18 month construction period. The Bomen Solar Farm has been an environmental disaster due to a lack of effective tree screening and sheep dying from having their wool caught in the rotocuffs and eating wires from the solar panels. Sheep need shade not solar panels.
4. The micro-climate created by these solar farms will cause heat banks and winds will transfer these temperatures to nearby farms.
5. The area selected for this solar farm is unsuitable due to the heavy incidence of winter fogs which appear from May to October. Travelling into Albury during these periods of heavy fog is dangerous and commuters have to slow down to 40k’s an hour because of poor visibility. Thus many people who already have solar panels on their roof have to switch back to main power as there is not enough sunlight to power a home for six months of the year. So, why would you set up solar farms in an area that is fog prone! The Albury district is known for its pea-souper fogs which causes many flight delays during the long cold winter months.
6. It is very disappointing to hear of fifth generation farmers leasing off part of their land to a Korean solar company after all the hard work that their forefathers did before them in establishing a productive farm. Today farms are worth a lot of money per hectare and we are witnessing record prices for farm produce so why sell your soul when so many people object to this development.
7. The Greater Hume Shire has opposed this development on principle as it is on good agricultural land and it sees the bigger picture which is to preserve our valuable agricultural land. It is to be congratulated for standing on principle and against bribery unlike several rural landowners who stand to make mega bucks for leasing out their land. This development is not the goose who lays the golden egg but the goose who lays the rotten egg.
8. The toxic waste from the decommissioning of these solar panels is still to be addressed. Where do all these solar panels go in thirty years’ time as they are hard to recycle as they contain harmful chemicals like sulphuric acid. It will involve another six months of dismantling panels and more heavy truck movements in a bigger populated area than now.