A submission for the Jindera Solar farm

Thank you, commissioners, for allowing me to speak in favour of the Jindera Solar Farm

My name is Jonathan Schulz

I am 1 of the landholders planning to host the Jindera solar farm

Our family has been in the Jindera area since @1860 settling the property Elmslie

My grandfather bought the block where Huonlea house is in the late 1930’s with my father and his mother my Grandmother moving to and building Huonlea Cottage in the late 1950’s when dads brother Bert married and ran Elmslie

My parents .my wife and I have purchased other parcels of land to take our land holding to 1000 hectares.

* This will make our children 4th generation farmers on Huonlea.
* With the income generated from renting to Jindera Solar farm
* it will drought proof the farm financially.
* Provide a diverse income stream.
* Provide a healthy retirement income for my father Arnold who is now in a nursing home
* Help with succession planning for those children not wanting to farm without having to sell the farm

I believe we will get approximately 75% of the grazing potential in the area of the panels so will be able to make use of this “valuable grazing land “as well as receive a rent for it

 producing electricity, food, and fibre all in an environmentally friendly way

In caring for the environment, we have fenced off waterways with Landcare and planted trees some of these are within the solar farm area and will be retained.

With caring for the environment, we are pleased to be able to provide clean green solar electricity from our farm

For animal welfare the panels will provide shelter / shade in the summer time

Protection from wind and rain for freshly shorn sheep

Protection from wind and rain for new born lambs if we chose to lamb down ewes in the solar farm area

To me using our land to provide clean green solar electricity is not very different to growing a Canola crop to provide Bio Diesel which is 1 of the uses of canola

To finish

We look forward to see an environmentally friendly ,innovative way of producing electricity while continuing to use our productive pastures for lamb and wool production with the Jindera solar farm

Thankyou everyone for listening

To answer the question about water in dams, there is water in the dams on Huonlea with dams being filled in we will be building dam capacity in other parts of the farm

We are allowed to collect 0.06 of a meg per ha and store