

From: [David Adams](#)
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: SSD - 9255
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I was supposed to speak at the meeting this afternoon.

I came home from a meeting to find my toddler had to be taken to the doctor for a drenching fever, even though he had Panadol about an hour and a half earlier.

If this concern could be included in your determination, I would very much appreciate it.

We own 1150 acres next door to the solar farm, Red Hill, on the Gostwyck Road. We have an over 7 million dollar debt on our farm country based on our asset value, one of those assets is Red Hill.

Red Hill's value is that it is big enough to appeal to a weekend farmer and has the rolling green hills. It is aspect with a little bit of production to offset the costs.

We have two valuations from local real estate agents. One valuing the place before solar farm and one after. Red Hill's market value stands to lose \$820-830,000 based on a maximum 2.7million (without solar) dollar property.

I met with UPC earlier today. When we met with two of their people, the fellow from EMM and Tim Kirk, months ago we asked them what have solar farms done to the value of neighbouring properties, we were told 'We don't know'. We haven't done one this big...etc but the company website says how big and awesome and experienced they are. I pressed them, got nothing.

Today we were told by Killian from UPC that our concerns in our submission about reduced value had been addressed in some document they sent to some department (but not us - but that is ok). The long and short of it is that the state government bases the value of our property on the residence and as the solar farm cant be seen (and other measures) by the residence then there is no loss of value. Well whomever worked that out isn't sitting on a 7 million dollar plus debt in a drought and working their arses off to keep their stock alive, keep farming and keep their kids at school. We have two very market valuations, that spell out the reality for our family and so many other families that will be neighbouring this and other wind and solar farm developments in our area. We have am \$800,000 plus or roughly 30% loss on our property valuation.

One daughter has given up a radiation therapy degree at Newcastle and come back to help us on farm in the drought. Se is going to study nursing at UNE to keep her hand in this year. Our third daughter was given a place to study business and law in Sydney and a berth at the Women's College - she too is staying to help us muddle through. She will study the same degree but at UNE. We have a nice family of hard working good farming children that are having everything they get up at 4am before school to work for, taken by a multinational company with slick and greasy comebacks and help from state government 'valuation methodologies' that don't include neighbours in their race for clean energy votes and ticks in boxes.

David Adams worked for every acre on Red Hill, not worked on it, and then inherited it, but worked for Red Hill. At 61, and after this drought he doesn't have it in him to keep fighting. Farms aren't worth money in income. You put all your income back into the farm and you sell them and that is when you make your money. The sheep and cattle are just

like renters helping to pay off an investment property. The only way farmers make money for all their hours (and that includes the children) is when the farm is sold - you get to hand it on to the next generation to say thank you for everything they have done. UPC has devalued our property by more than a third. We are in serious trouble with our debt to equity ratio. UPC can claim whatever based on whatever state government department formula but at the end of the day....we are down over \$800,000. We are one family, with UPC there will be many more neighbours that feel the pinch and then there are the half dozen other state significant energy projects that are coming to this region. We only get the chance to do this well, once, and then all the rest will follow on. Please don't let my family, and other like ours, of hardworking, very hardworking farmers be the economic losers to a multinational energy company.

Amanda and David Adams

If anyone wants to talk to us about what it is like to get death threats from your solar sign up neighbours so that you are left afraid, sleepless and frightened for your children (when you have done nothing but put in legal and somewhat kind - we thought) submissions, we have paid no attention to anything solar for months, been too busy with keeping stock alive. I asked said neighbours not to park on my place three times as they are kind of shitting on my life with the solar farm so please go park somewhere else. Got told suck it up bitch, the solar farm is going in, play your violin (loads of F's and C's) somewhere else and then months later got threatened with being sorted out, taken out and Gotten rid of, on a family night out for dinner at the local pub (we are talking family hours, not pissy late night).....We haven't been to media or funded legal stuff, done nothing. We are not the only neighbours of the UPC project to be threatened. We don't blame UPC, we blame the individuals involved. UPC have been nothing but kind and respectful in our dealings, but this is so hard to take. HOw does anyone keep going with the drought, 30% reduction in property value (but don't worry the state government values it at this.....I'll tell that to the buyers in a commercial context and see how I go) and death threats.....not well, is my answer.