

**From:** [Ray and Jenny Jacob](#)  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Additional comments to livestream talk Walla Walla Solar Farm SSD 9874 Jennifer Jacob and more on 11th November  
**Date:** Wednesday, 11 November 2020 2:48:22 PM

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Dear Commissioners

In addition to my comments for my talk last Thursday, I wanted to add: In my talk I highlighted the untruths FRV have said about Walla Walla. The prominent business in mention had no idea that was said, until I alerted them. They were very concerned when they heard it said they would be closing their doors in June. Yet FRV want to work with our community and build up trust for their project!

For two years landholders have had to live with this huge uncertainty in their lives! The effect it is having on them all is terrible! The way they have been treated is appalling! An example is with the substation being moved and planting shrubs earlier! All having to defend themselves against this project takes its toll. It's always on your mind. It doesn't seem right... person leases land for huge money and neighbours whole livelihoods and futures devastated! Let alone the effects on their health and strain on relationships. It effects their children too and then being caught up in deep community division. Because of money offered by FRV to Council for communities, people focus on that and take their mind off the true issues. To me, it is like a bribe to gain support.

Also, I help drop Welcome Packs to new people in Walla Walla. I have to keep asking for more. The last one I dropped off a few days ago, said her son is waiting for a house to live in Walla Walla and they are pleased his son will be going to the Walla Walla School because they have heard how good it is. I am finding this more that families are coming here to be together. Houses are sold so quick and any rentals are gone quickly. A couple of days ago, the Walla Walla Post Office staff asked me if there could be about 10 more copies of our monthly Walla Newsletter printed, because they said Walla township, plus farm mail run deliveries, is growing. In our last Newsletter, there was a feature about the PO and the last words were, 'As the Walla population grows, there will be an anticipated increase in mail volume which could necessitate the hiring of additional staff.' Both the Walla Food Mill and newly opened Walla Bakehaus are employing locals, which is great. We ordered a new shed a few months ago, and we have to wait 6 months. Last year we ordered a portable field bin and had to wait 6 months.

Walla Walla is NOT a dying town! We don't need a solar project! We want to build on what we have in agriculture. I just hope that you can come and see our town for yourselves. That's why I was hoping so much, there can be a real public meeting where you get a real understanding of our situation. In my talk, I had so much trouble putting all I wanted to say in 5 minutes. I have added more

in these two emails, but it loses its effect when it's not all in the talk together.

I found both Lynne LeBlack and Bill Schulz talks confronting, to hear what has happened to them at Bomen with solar projects near them. It was significant that they said sheep were eating the wires of the solar panels, so sheep don't graze under them anymore. That's the main argument of large scale solar companies that agri and solar can be together. Also, they mentioned about plants dying. When I read FRV report, it sounded like if there is a problem, we will plant shrubs. They take 8-10 years to grow! Hearing all this, only makes it more reason not to have the Walla Walla solar project go ahead. Other alternatives to large scale solar on prime land need to be looked at.

Yours sincerely  
Jennifer Jacob

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**From:** Ray and Jenny Jacob [mailto:ray.jacob@bigpond.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 5 November 2020 8:31 PM  
**To:** 'ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au'  
**Subject:** Additional comments to livestream talk Walla Walla Solar Farm Jennifer Jacob

Dear Commissioners

Thank you for the opportunity to talk today.  
I just had a few extra comments to make that  
I didn't have time to make in my five minutes.

- There really isn't any benefit to Walla Walla in this project.
- The people leasing land and the foreign owned Company are the winners.  
( If they don't go broke) The money offered to Community via Council VPA.  
Who gets that? Will it happen? I'm very wary of FRV after the untruths said about Walla Walla.
- The employment is short term and then it's gone. The long-term of 16 is for the life of the project. Agriculture is forever, and uses all our local businesses. Better to keep with Orange Grove Gardens employing 19 locals and supporting local businesses.
- Often Solar Farm companies bring a lot of their own workers.
- We have wonderful businesses who employ many workers.
- The new business that opened today selling Henty Bakery Bread had a great start and employing 3 locals.
- A solar project would take away from what we already have.
- We want to build on what we have, our valuable agriculture.
- The Federal Government have invested heavily in agriculture, for recovery, because there are so many varied jobs available, and flow on to so many other businesses and we don't want to import food.
- The Federal Government isn't investing in solar and wind anymore.

- Technology is changing so much, they are investing in other ideas.
  - Stop, think, plan carefully the future energy ideas. Is climate change true? Are there other options to large scale solar? Roof top solar? Solar gardens? Community solar? There won't be problems with agriculture and divisions in community. Local people actually reap the rewards in their investment.
  - COVID has taught Australia to stay local and be self sufficient. Where do the 700,000 panels and associated equipment come from? Only one Company in Australia make solar panels.
  - Too risky to give up our prime land to overseas solar companies. We are in the middle of a world wide financial, economic crisis and pandemic. What if the Company goes broke? No money. Left with a wasteland.
  - I am of the understanding the transmission line is full/near full anyway.
  - At Ouyen, the town excited about the extra workers coming. The Hotel is left with \$125,000 owed to it.
  - At Finley, a major contractor has left a dozen companies unpaid for about a year.
  - The Department considers the project an effective compatible use of land meeting Govt goals for renewable energy. NOT IN OUR SHIRE!!!! Or on any Important agricultural land.
- This must be stopped!! Too much IAL has already been destroyed.

Yours sincerely  
Jennifer Jacob



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