

Re Bonshaw proposed Solar Farm SSD9438

Added reply objection by Neville Heywood
940 Camp Creek road, Atholwood, 2361

kelly_neville@bigpond.com



<https://nnimg-a.akamaihd.net/silverstone-feed-data/d78451a2-4cc7-40c8-bfc9-c73861713a10.jpg>

This is one form of pollution by careless people who care nothing for the environment – at least this kind of environmental damage can be cleared up with a truck and *Clean Up Australia* volunteers.

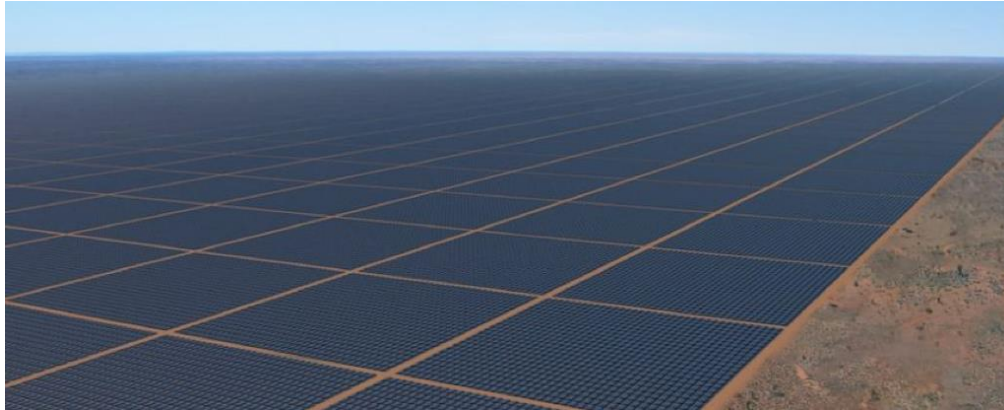


<https://trackenergy.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/solar-panel-farm.jpg>

This is what we can expect to be built near Bonshaw. This is absolute visual vandalism, a disregard of the harmony and beauty and ecosystems in Bonshaw's bush environment. And what happens when they are fazed out, when surpassed by new energy sources. A graveyard of metal rotting and collapsing in the bush!

At least in mining they are required to rehabilitate country after mining an area has ceased.

With the move to 100% renewables by 2050, the following is what we can expect all around NSW and across Australia. This is going to be the ultimate despoliation and disregard for the land ever. It's going to destroy a lot of Australia's scenic bush. For what? The proposed cure is worse than the problem.



https://www.sciencealert.com/images/2020-10/processed/010-solar-farm_1024.png



Wind farm Glen Innes

Now Bonshaw's isn't a wind farm, but they are similar visual pollutions unleashed on the Australian environment. They are ugly, totally incongruous.

This wouldn't even be a problem though if they weren't subsidised by government, because then they wouldn't be happening. These things also wouldn't be maxxing our national debt. Impoverishing us. Worst of all this simple technology isn't even made in Australia. It comes from China and enriches their economy at cost of ours.

Solar panels have a function and below I have illustrated the solution. Such panels should be installed at the *point of use only* – i.e. homes, factories, hospitals, airports, schools, university campuses, commercial buildings etc. Then visual vandalism will not be happening. They fit the urban environment and function as elements of any building's external profile. Rooves are the ideal place but so are curtain walls too. A Google search of solar panel use in architecture shows many walled buildings incorporating panels on the exterior walls. This is the right way and responsible in relation to the environment.



<https://cdn.newsapi.com.au/image/v1/fc8a4108b08a8a89b8d5000802fd92c4?width=1024>



https://ebsaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Solar_Family.png

What is planned for Bonshaw is symptomatic of what is going to happen all across the state. This is madness! This paranoia over CO2 which plants and trees love, will result in mass ugliness on an as yet unrealised scale. There is no other way to put it. Interestingly the Art Gallery of NSW each year hosts a prize for landscape art, known as the Wynne Prize. Well no one is going to paint a picture of solar panels or wind turbines and submit it for that. Why? Because they are aesthetically ugly! The only way these will be painted is as social criticism to protest the environmental vandalism. This alone should tell us something.

The environment matters, but most of all in its totality! It isn't possible to introduce large-scale incongruous structures and keep the aesthetics of the environment. This move to tentacles of incongruous infrastructure is the new environmental battleground. There is a way around this problem however and it lies with the cities creating their own power grids from their own structures. This latest farming out policy move is a messing outside the nest one. Political astuteness will be to utilise the blank surfaces of urban structures to power the needs of cities and towns.

I understand from media reporting that there will be a levy incorporated in electricity bills over time to recoup the cost of this new technology. How much better to put the panels at the point of use? And yes a very small levy cost could then be paid off over time. I have solar panels on my roof – only once has there been a glitch and that pertained to a wire not properly connected during installation.

What we need is a whole new mindset towards the environment. We have to love the land first not disregard and exploit it as the ugliness of solar and wind farms are doing. Indigenous artist Gordon Bennett struggled against the tensions colonialism produced to see the land affected by it as 'no longer alive' with 'the spirit' of his 'ancestors', but a 'dead' place to traverse 'between ... cities'.¹ This is more of that colonial project deadening the landscape. Such infrastructure as it randomly gets built in country NSW will generate similar feelings of deadness, incongruity, unloveliness, pragmatism, and alienation. These projects are the new colonialism, a domination of the landscape that does not care about the environment holistically, but uses it only as a quarry for short term need. It is a Pandora's box of misguided intent, the outcome of which is an 'uglification' of rural NSW. There is no other way to say it.

Please change tack and be a real environmentalist government and electricity provider. Rethink the strategy. Match the infrastructure to its surroundings. The bush at Bonshaw, and other areas of country NSW are not it. Beautify the nest of urban areas rather than 'tentacling' their energy needs to siphon off the beauty of country NSW. There is no need to despoil country areas to meet majority urban energy needs. Volte-face!

¹ Britton, Stephanie. (Ed). (1992). 'Contemporary Australian Aboriginal Art'. *Artlink*, Vol. 1, nos. 1 & 2.