

**From:** [Kelly Flanagan](#)  
**To:** [IPCN Submissions Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Bowmans Creek Wind Farm  
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To whom it may concern - please see my objection to the Bowmans Creek Wind Farm as per below:

Our family moved to our beautiful home in Muscle Creek just over 14 years with the attraction of being able to abide in a quiet friendly small community within 10 minutes to the edge of Muswellbrook.

We purchased the property so we could grow together as a family with our son in a small rural community with lots of wide-open spaces and room to run around, ride horses, motor bikes and bush walk with the family dog.

Our property is fully established for breeding horses which has been following a tradition for many years, with the 1971 Golden Slipper winner Fairy Walk born & bred here, hence the property being named 'Fairways', after this successful racehorse.

I have been involved with breeding and showing horses for over 40 yrs and value my home, family and animals at Muscle Creek as my place to retreat from the troubles of the outside world. My husband and I both work within the Energy Industry within the Upper Hunter area and understand the importance of working hard to achieve to establish family roots and a home base.

From our shady veranda we can sight over nine of our neighbours who all live on acreages similar to ours, breeding cattle, horses and enjoying the peaceful tranquillity that the valley has to offer.

We hope to one day in the future pass our beautiful property onto our son, so he also enjoy the benefits of this beautiful valley and raise his family here, as we are doing now.

The residents of Muscle Creek had all resided happily in our beautiful peaceful valley until we learnt that Epuron (Ark Energy) began their investigation on constructing a wind farm of up to 60 turbines. The proposal to construct the wind farm on the ridgeline behind my property

has a project area of 17,000 acres. The location of almost one third of these turbines start within 3.5 km to the rear of our property boundary.

From the photo montages that Epuron provided me with in 2019, there are twenty-three turbines in my photos.

I have been advised by Epuron by letter that only one turbine will be visible from my property entrance (the fine print states that the montage can never be accurate)

With these turbines being 220 metres high on top of a ridgeline, and our residence being only 4.1 km away, I have no doubt that we will be impacted visually.

The small friendly community has now changed, anger and hostility has been driven among all who reside in our small area, with decades of friendships broken and a community now divided.

I have had very little to no contact from Epuron regarding this project and will have the following impacts.

Health Impacts - This project will have significant impacts on all my family's health with the constant dust and noise from the start of construction to the ongoing continuous years of operation. Unsealed roads, concrete plants, rock crushing plants, and the constant plant and machinery movements.

Visual Amenity - it will decrease my property value significantly with the project being built so close to my residence. Once these unsightly industrial turbines are built, working or not, they will never be removed. Who will compensate me when I cannot live here anymore because of the unbearable noise and unsightly visual structure ?

Desecration of Wildlife – Muscle Creek has the most amazing bird life, just sitting on my veranda you can see at least 10 different bird varieties at any time. On occasions we have pelicans and swans drop in, not the mention the beautiful wedge tail eagles that habitat the valley. These birds will be driven away by the annoying sound or killed / maimed by the blades of these wind turbines.

Increased Fire Danger – Muscle Creek has only one entry and exit road and with us have been through one of the most severe droughts that this country has seen, I am extremely concerned that if we are subjected to a

bush fire, there will be no assistance from aircrafts due to the wind farm. It is no doubt and has been proven that wind turbines are an increased fire hazard in any rural area.

Increased Heavy Vehicles – The EIS states that Hebden Rd which is off the New England Hwy will be used for access, during any day of the week these roads are at capacity with bumper-to-bumper traffic heading to and from the area daily. Not to mention the increased risk of school buses travelling on these already overpopulated roads which will increase the risk of our kids' lives being in danger.

I fail to trust or fully believe anything of the information that Epuron have provided me with. The community meetings have always been planned at the most inconvenient times for working families and are at McCully's Gap almost 40 minutes' drive from Muscle Creek, the most populated area for residences and the proposed project area.

I feel cheated and taken advantage of from these corporate bullies that are coming into my area to destroy what we have worked hard to achieve. I feel I have no rights to protect my family, my home, my neighbours, and where we live happily.

If this project is approved property acquisitions should be made or no turbines allowed within a 10km radius to people's residences. I am not against renewable energy, but I believe this area is far too populated and untouched with beauty for a wind farm to be built so close to so many families.

*Kelly A Flanagan*  
*20/12/2023*