From:

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To: Subject: Hills of Gold Wind Farm - Reference number SSD-9679 - Objection

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 2:54:00 PM

Submission by

Redact name please

****** Start of Submission *****

To whom it may concern

I am a resident of Shearers Road for the past 30 + years and own a neighbouring property to the proposed windfarm. I have previously operated a primary production business but have not for several years. This project is not viable. The project relies on landholders maintaining their own trees and properties to mitigate the visual and noise impacts of the turbines, in the majority of cases there are no landholder agreements in place for this and the burden is on landholders to mitigate the risks themselves in fear that should they not the result would be unobstructed views of the turbines or blades or worse no barrier for the noise pollution it will create. We were previously offered a land holder agreement which i obtained independent advice on which resulted in me rejected as the agreements did not favor those who signed them but rather hindered or hamstrung them into maintaining their lands at their own costs and with no opportunity to utilise the lands or generate an income from these lands all under the caveat that you can not object the any part of the project or take any adverse action against the applicant or host property and breaches resulted in no payment until rectified to applicants satisfaction. This also impacts Morrisons Gap Road, the only public route to my property which will see me having to share with construction vehicles, trucks, project employees whilst constantly communicating my travel plans via radio with them and i can only assume will result in me having to wait considerable times to accommodate for the project vehicles or even see their vehicles prioritise over residents. The route takes me through their designated camp (site office) which it is unclear if they may restrict access at any time and in close proximity to no less than 4 turbines which not only pose a risk during construction but throughout the life of the project via the real risk of ice throw in winter. Also notably this road is also used by tourists to the local trout farm and will pose a risk to the public.

As a long term resident i have experienced extreme rainfall, flooding, drought and bushfires. This project will compound all of these and poses a real risk to all residents that not only neighbour the proposed property but all downstream of the project. The construction of these turbines, particularly those located along Morrison gap Road feed into various streams which are a water source for various flora and fauna as well as feed into rivers and dams which are a source of water for farmers to generate an income. This project will affect the underground water table that feeds into several aquifers and streams. The applicant has not identified a secure source of water for the project and fear this will have to be sourced on site. We have already seen the impact this can have when it was identified that a landowner was pumping water upstream without neighbours knowledge and

affected the access to water for residents downstream during periods of drought. Also noting that during periods of extreme heat bushfires are likely and due to dense bushland can spread at an exponential rate and can become out of control very quickly. The turbines of this project will only compound the problem by impacting aerial firefighting efforts as they will have to avoid the turbines and not utilise the most optimal routes and strategies to put these fires out and may result in properties being collateral damage as a result and will cause ground fire fighting to be the only method of fighting these fires in areas that should only be accessible via aerial firefighting efforts.

Overall this project is out of character for the area, it is not fit for purpose and will have adverse generational impacts

**** End of submission ***