

JODY MCNALLY		OBJECT	Submission No: 164385
Organisation:		Key issues:	Biodiversity,Agricultural impacts and land use
Location:	New South Wales 2358		
Submitter Type:	I am a member of the local community who would be particularly and directly affected by the proposed development		
Attachment:			

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I have grave concerns for the impacts this proposed wind development will have on the biodiversity on and around the project site. It contains many critically endangered and vulnerable species, that rely on these vulnerable and precious woodland communities for food and habitat. Recent wildfires have left our icon koala critically endangered throughout NSW, this development will be another knife in the back for our koala populations. The population here is healthy and an important part of keeping this species around for the future. The waterways impacted by this development have the incredible Bells Turtle inhabiting it, an endangered species that relies on deep waterholes for breeding. Where is mention of the Bells Turtle in the EIS for this project? This is to only name a few of the more critical species, there are countless vulnerable woodland bird species relying on this area for habitat. A full biodiversity study must be conducted for this site including the creeks and waterways.

I belong to the Balala Rural Fire Brigade and understand first hand the risks to landholders and fire fighters in wildfire. The recent devastating wild fires in 2020 have led to an increase in aerial firefighting as a tool for containment and early response to fires in this very rocky and difficult to access by vehicle terrain. I have incredible concern for the future fires within this area with these enormous turbines in place hampering our ability to use aerial firefighting. This is going to lead to bigger and more dangerous fires and fire fronts. The surrounding properties and villages are going to be in grave danger. The village of Kentucky will have wildfire at their doors within minutes, with kms of fire front laping at their doors. Our brigade is in the first response to fires within the proposed area, our members are quite rightly nervous about what the future holds for fires in this area. We have become reliant on aerial support, which saves lives and properties. Who will be making the call to turn off the turbines in case of a fire and more importantly how quickly will they turn off? Their large turning blades will be fanning the flames, changing the natural winds and increasing the danger.

This project sits in an unacceptable location, this proposal must be rejected.