



New South Wales Government
Independent Planning Commission

TRANSCRIPT OF MEETING

RE: DINAWAN SOLAR FARM (SSD-50725959)

STAKEHOLDER MEETING

PANEL: SUELLEN FITZGERALD (Chair)
SIMON SMITH

STAKEHOLDER: LYNETTE LABLACK

LOCATION: ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

DATE: 10:00AM – 12:30PM
WEDNESDAY, 4th MARCH 2026

<THE MEETING COMMENCED

MS LYNETTE LABLACK: I can hear you. Can you hear me now?

5 **MS SUELLEN FITZGERALD:** Great. We can now hear you and we can see your presentation. So, good morning.

MS LABLACK: Good morning.

10 **MS FITZGERALD:** Before we get started, I'd like to make a formal introduction if I can, please. I'd like to acknowledge that we're speaking to you from the Gadigal land and I acknowledge the traditional owners of all the lands from which we're virtually meeting. I'd also like to pay my respects to their Elders past and present.

15 So, today we're meeting to discuss the state significant development application for the Dinawan Solar Farm. I'm Suellen Fitzgerald. I'm the Chair of the Panel, and joining me is my fellow commissioner, Simon Smith, and staff members from the office of the Independent Planning Commission here in the room with me.

20 In the interests of openness and transparency, we'll be recording this meeting and a full transcript of today's meeting will be available on the Commission's website in the next couple of days.

So, over to you, Ms LaBlack.

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MS LABLACK: Okay, thank you. EnergyCo said, "The rollout was renewables was essential to create a secure and affordable energy future." Transgrid said it and EnergyConnect construction partner, Elecnor, "Work closely with councils to minimise impacts during construction." It is obviously clear, absolutely clear, from 30 personal contacts and the South West REZ inquiry hearing that EnergyCo, Transgrid and Spark Renewables have absolutely failed on all counts with their totally illogical and seriously detrimental fake green sabotaging swindle factory interconnector plans in Murrumbidgee Shire, as they defy all the principles of ecologically sustainable development and all aspects of the National Electricity Law objectives in order to 35 implement China's Energy Dream.

As Patricia Adams so aptly states in China's Energy Dream, "Carbon dioxide reduction only makes sense for those China wishes to harm and supplant." So, photo 1, 40 Spark Renewables' Dinawan Solar Plant is against our will. There is no consent, no social licence.

In the South West REZ inquiry on the 18th of February, Murrumbidgee Council's Director of Planning and Development said, "It was all pain and no gain. Any social licence that had been established in the early stages of the REZ development in his 45 region had now been lost. There was a degree of trust that the conditions of consent that were imposed on those developments would satisfy our community, keep it safe, limit the impacts," he said.

That was all mistaken. What actually happened on the ground is totally opposite. Following the farcical non-transparent Dinawan Solar individual stakeholder meetings stitch-up at Coleambally, which I actually went to and was not allowed to talk, we fortuitously bumped into a bunch of locals eager to hear what was going on with the IPC and secret energy business. They were all very sceptical and concerned, they felt totally neglected regarding consultation. Businesses had not benefited much at all from extra patronage, as was claimed would occur with the worker influx. And they were pleading for a factual information session with questions answered and wanted to know why three people had died at Dinawan Substation. Where's the transparency with secret energy business? Why did three people die at Dinawan Substation?

Two. Second photo. Toxic hazard warning. There is a profound and deliberate lack of acknowledgement, consideration and factual assessment of the obvious toxic impacts of Dinawan Solar and Battery by the Department and IPCN in all previous approvals, showing a lack of care that demonstrates reckless disregard for the safety and lives of others, which is so great it appears to be a conscious violation of other people's rights to safety. Who has tested the soil and the water for on-site and surrounding toxic solar contaminants at Spark Renewables already present Bomen Solar? Nobody.

Three. Toxic renewables are the asbestos of the future, poisonous to the public by our life-sustaining land being cursed by industrialised solar, wind swindle factories and hazardous lithium-ion batteries, such as Dinawan Solar's leaching toxic heavy metals including silver and banned toxic contaminating forever chemical PFOS, which is still being used and imported unregulated, as admitted to by Border Force on the 3rd of February this year, from China, toting their unethically produced Uyghur slave labour linked solar panels, their electrical wiring and also in Chinese solar inverters.

Toxic carcinogenic and teratogenic solar fire smoke and hydrogen fluoride gas emitted from inevitable and irreversible lithium-ion battery thermal battery fire event plumes that travel at least 5 kilometres are lethal to our lungs. This isn't considered one bit in the Dinawan EIS. RFS refuse to subject themselves to such life-threatening toxic smoke events. Who has tested the soil and water fonds in surrounding toxic solar contaminants at Bomen? Nobody.

Four. Hail fractured toxic contaminating heavy metal leaching PFOS-coated solar panels littering and poisoning the site, surrounding land and water, biodiversity and the public. The updated 2025 Australian Drinking Water Guidelines highlight the hazards of toxic PFOS for human health. Who has tested the soil and water for on-site and surrounding toxic solar contaminates, including forever chemical PFOS and silver? Nobody.

Five and six. Significant widespread hail fracturing of solar panels, with many smashed to pieces, October to November last year. My own family previously experienced a similar situation where their roof and their car were written off. Hail fractured panels, thousands of them, remain broken as is in situ for 10 to 11 months before insurance was figured out and workmen finally began to clean up the massive mess. Households were ordered to drain their rainwater tanks and not to drink the

water if they had damaged solar panels on their roof. Who has tested the soil and water for on-site and surrounding toxic solar contaminants in these situations? Nobody.

5 Seven and eight. Extensive trail of tornado destruction at Bomen, including one of very few original Spark Renewables perimeter trees losing big limbs and smashing our adjoining fence. 15th of January last year (2025), a shipping container flipped right next door to this site at Riverina Oils, injuring four workers. Instead of secret energy business and ABC misinformation cover-ups, we need to know what damage occurred on this site regarding the 500,000 solar panels at Bomen, which includes Bomen Solar and Wagga Solar, during this event.

10 We require immediate ongoing and frequent expert reputable independent testing, monitoring and public reporting of the on-site and surrounding land and water regarding toxic solar contamination. A transparent contamination response procedure is required, outlining availability of coating material, immediate removal, clean-up, waste recycling destination, and decontamination plans.

Who has tested –

20 **MS FITZGERALD:** Ms LaBlack, just to let you know, you're at the nine-minute mark. So, one minute to make your last remarks. Thank you.

25 **MS LABLACK:** Who has tested the soil and water for on-site and surrounding toxic solar contaminants at Bomen? Well, you can just go scroll through all the photos, you can see all the damage. This has occurred in the last couple of years. Solar panels broken, damaged, water running into water sources like the Hume Dam, which is drinking water affecting New South Wales or Albury, Farrer electorate, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

30 And considering that nothing's being done there at that Wellington North Solar fire site, everyone's pretending it's not their problem. It's actually the landowner and the councils who are going to be the ones responsible for all this. And considering Spark Renewables, well, considering renewables are the asbestos of the future, obviously, there's their Jinko unethical PFOS-coated solar panels, all contaminating Bomen area.

35 I say stop Tenaga Nasional Berhad/Spark Renewables poisoning our land, water, biodiversity and the public.

40 There's their farcical biodiversity offsets, we've already got the PFAS plague at Wagga. No one wants anymore of this in the Riverina, our food bowl. Considering Spark Renewables' claim that plethora of research is occurring at Bomen Solar and Spark Renewables continues to manage the site as its flagship operational asset while developing other major projects like the Dinawan Energy Hub, it's unconscionable that Spark Renewables aren't doing a thing to independently, using reputable experts, frequently test, monitor and report regarding the toxic contaminants leaching from the panels on site and for surrounding soil/water during operation.

45 Given the panels have now been there at least six years, who knows if the toxins are already leaking from the typical vulnerable points of intact panels, including the

backing join point and wiring. What happened during the tornado event? How many panels were damaged and broken when the shipping container next door flipped over? Obviously, some were damaged.

5 There must also be reputable independent heat island effect research being conducted now at Bomen Solar, with results proving no detrimental production losses, no increased rate of insect pupation, no negative pollination impacts to surrounding food producers, prior to Spark Renewables cursing, vandalising and contaminating anymore areas like Coleambally, [unintelligible 00:11:03] and Buronga Wentworth Shire.

10 **MS FITZGERALD:** Thank you, Ms LaBlack. Thanks for bringing those points to our attention and taking the time.

15 **MS LABLACK:** I hope that thing, that welcome to country wasn't counted in the 10 minutes.

20 **MS FITZGERALD:** No, it wasn't, it was extra to the 10 minutes, and so is my closing statement to you, Ms LaBlack. If you had further things you wanted to say to us this morning, please make a written submission to us via the portal on our website or via email. And the deadline for those submissions on the Dinawan Solar Farm is midnight on Sunday the 8th of March. So, thank you –

25 **MS LABLACK:** It's not actually a week after this, is it, which isn't very fair. And I would also like to say that there's already ongoing litigation in relation to industrialised solar at Bomen. And we will definitely be joining a class action in the future against this, because the Department and the Independent Planning Commission are not making factual assessments.

30 **MS FITZGERALD:** Thank you, Ms LaBlack, we've got that information and the issue about Bomen's. And thank you again for the time today. So, we look forward to your submission.

MS LABLACK: Bye.

35 **>THE MEETING CONCLUDED**