

14 June 2019

PO Box 846
Mudgee NSW 2850

Independent Planning Commission NSW
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Commissioners

CRUDINE RIDGE WIND FARM MOD 1

I wish to object to the proposed Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Mod 1 with respect to the reduction in the number of wind turbines to 37. My parents own and reside at [REDACTED], Crudine, identified by the developer CWP Renewables as [REDACTED]. This property abuts the project site just below the top of the ridgeline.

I believe the site proposed for this project is unsuitable with regard to soil stability. In submissions presented to CWP Renewables and the DPE from the EA and later PPR, official submission period for this project early 2013, local residents expressed deep concern based on their own experiences. The CMA (Catchment Management Authority), NSW government agency, pointed out the potential pitfalls of proceeding with this development siting in their response "the project needs to be re-envisioned or relocated". This advice appears to have been completely ignored by the DPE.

CWP Renewables carried out earthworks along the ridge bordering my parent's property at during the latter half of 2018. Additional towers were installed at the site above my parent's property. In October 2018 I emailed Brendan McAvoy, Project Director for the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (CRWF) to seek an explanation for the purpose of the new towers and their construction but did not receive a reply. In January 2019 a sudden flash storm (not uncommon) precipitated about 35ml of rain in a very short time. This is always a potential disaster on this landscape, especially when prolonged drought conditions are occurring. The soil will not bind easily and being light will shift readily and rapidly.

Please see the following photos taken during February, March and April 2019 of the significant damage to the land directly below the construction site. Some of these photos show damage within my parent's land and others show damage within the land owned by one of the hosts joining my parent's land on their south-western boundary. I will describe each photo below:

Photos of runoff damage in my parent's property looking towards a floodgate and boundary fence.



Below is a photo of the damage to the fencing below the area shown above.



Photo showing my parents boundary fence and a deep gutter in the host's paddock that has never existed before, located directly below a newly installed tower.



The new watercourse appears to be 30-40cms deep and has carried significant rock down the hillside and into the existing creek.

Photo of rocks in the creek that begins near the tower site in the host's paddock and continues into my parents paddock and eventually to the Crudine road.





The above photos show the creek that starts in the host's paddock below the tower site and has carried rock and small boulders down through the host's paddock into my parent's paddock severely eroding the creek banks, damaging fencing and continuing to the Crudine road where floodgates and fencing have been destroyed. The road was closed due to the amount of rock deposited at the point where the creek intersects with the road.

The following photos are of the damage caused to the fencing/floodgate below where the creek crosses the Crudine road.





This damage has never occurred to this extent in the 50 years my parents have lived at the property. I will be forwarding this issue to the developer in an attempt to have this damage investigated and hopefully prevented if further construction is to take place. I am concerned the instability of the soil and hillside may not have been considered when drainage from the existing work site was constructed. This also leads me to be extremely concerned that erosion and sediment control for any further construction for the CRWF may not be sufficient to adequately protect the surrounding environment and infrastructure, particularly that owned or on the property of a neighbour to the wind farm construction. This is one of the many reasons I am opposed to this modification and believe the reduction in wind turbines should go further reducing the number of turbines to zero.

Yours faithfully

ALICIA HAWKINS