



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission No: 178089

Organisation:		
Location:	New South Wales 2844	
Submitter Type:	I am a member of the local community who would be particularly and directly affected by the proposed development	Key issues: Land use compatibility, Visual impact, Traffic and transport, Social impacts, Temporary accommodation
Attachment:		

Submission date: 6/9/2024 5:33:25 PM

The cumulative effect of all these 16 proposed solar and wind industrial development projects is greater than the Department is stipulating- not only for the whole Dunedoo/Birriwa community but also for the whole CWO-REZ. This is an agricultural area not industrial. We have the Castlereagh Hwy running right through our property and our eastern border is the Golden Highway. We are regularly moving stock across the highway. The increased volume of traffic will be substantial and making farming practices more difficult. We also have the Talbragar River running through our river flats. We are downstream from this proposed development. Any extra excess runoff due to so many hard surfaces up stream- the Birriwa solar, the Battery and the temporary accommodation for workers- plus less diversity of vegetation (as the shrubs and trees will have to be removed to build these structures and many dams filled in) will likely result in our land being flooded more easily. Plus, the contamination of toxic particles from the solar panels may have long lasting effects on our growing capacity of our pastures and crops; as well as entering the food chain when digested by the stock. The development of a small town potentially using bore water may greatly impact the capacity and depth of our bore usage; and lower the water table. Large solar industrial structures are incompatible with operating an efficient grazing enterprise- adequate fences? dams for water? are farmers able to drive along and around all the panels to check and move stock? stock chew and rub against wires. There will be a social impact- families will be leaving the district if all these renewable projects go ahead..... and losing many of our volunteers. Our communities are cohesive; we help each other; volunteer in many local non-profit organizations because we value each other. It is highly unlikely that all the hundreds of new temporary workers will have that sense of belonging or contributing of their time to local causes. Planting shrubs to minimize visual impact will take years to be effective. How can erasing trees and grasslands from the environment be 'green'? This area is producing food and fibre for the nation and now the Govt. want us to produce the power for them too. We are sacrificing farming practices, lifestyle and mental well-being. If the CWO-REZ was like the human body- a little injury or burn on the arm maybe uncomfortable and a little bit inconvenient but the body would still function and heal. Now if the body sustains 16 injuries or burns at once the impact and consequences are more severe, healing will take longer, permanent damage or even death may result. This is what is being proposed for the Birriwa community within the '25km radius' of this Birriwa solar project, battery and temporary worker's camp. The impact is real. The Warrumbungle Shire Mayor, Ambrose Doolan, has asked for all these proposed renewable developments be deferred, including this one, until all the consequences and facts are known. ACEN wants us to generate their power although it seems not our voice.