



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission No: 179499

Organisation:		Key issues: <i>Land use compatibility, Visual impact, Traffic and transport, Social impacts, Temporary accommodation, Other issues</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2852</i>		
Submitter Type: <i>I am a member of the local community who would be particularly and directly affected by the proposed development</i>		
Attachment: <i>[REDACTED] submission</i>		

Submission date: 6/13/2024 8:12:12 PM

Please refer to the attachment

Dear Commissioners

Submission to the IPCN on the Birriwa Solar Works and BESS proposals, SSD-29508870

This submission is in addition to the presentation that I made to you personally at Dunedoo last week and to reconfirm that I am totally opposed to the Birriwa Solar and BESS electricity generation works.

It was made apparent to me at that meeting that there is no point in me giving you further detailed information on why this infrastructure is so damaging to the Australian environment and to our economy because quite frankly you don't appear to be able to grasp the details. That comment is not intended to offend anyone but it is the only conclusion that I can come to.

Just at that meeting alone last week you had a wealth of knowledge in the room, including individuals with qualifications relating to matters pertaining to the Birriwa project. There were speakers who were engineers, scientists, a soil conservationist, project managers with experience in major construction projects and logistics of managing major projects such as state rail, telecommunications, mining and state electricity. You had a speaker point out that we were in contravention of the Paris Agreement by using land used for food production to generate renewable energy. You also had a speaker from the Australian Uyghur community who talked of family connections in China being used as slave labour in concentration camps to make solar panels. These people are working in horrendous conditions that were not of their choosing. Not to mention the slavery in the artisanal copper and cobalt mines in the Congo and including child slavery. Our own government has put laws in place to prevent products made using slave labour illegal. You also had a speaker who besides being well informed about the realities of the green industry, has recently been informed that his land is under compulsory acquisition.

And then there were other experts like myself who have devoted years of their valuable time conducting research on the cradle to grave story of the green energy industry and the effects on the environment globally at each stage. Yes experts. The information that myself and others collect is verifiable and comes from science papers, government departments and from researching information from manufacturers and other direct sources. And there is also a great deal of lived experience including being witness to the disasters of existing renewables infrastructure that was only commissioned in recent years only a few kilometres from my home!

You really don't seem to grasp the cumulative affect given that there are more than 50 projects in the pipeline for our zone alone. Many of these projects are back-to-back taking in considerable areas of land and the permanent loss of wildlife will be significant. Certificates do not mitigate the permanent loss of wildlife in our communities.

You don't seem to have considered the cumulative traffic either. If each project is predicting 100 or more traffic movements each day then how will we cope with 50 times that number? The New England Zone will have their oversized trucks using a good part of the journey from the port too, have you considered that?

Every speaker that contributed last week was against the project and it seemed to us that you were totally disinterested in what we had to say. Almost all of the speakers were restricted to five minutes. Why was that? We were told that the opportunity to speak may go over two days and if it had we might have felt less humiliated at trying to get our point across in such a short time frame. One of the panel members was so focussed on trying to get the attention of the timekeeper because they thought the speaker had gone overtime that she totally missed half of the talk!

Then at the end of the day we were treated liked we had not made any contribution at all. You didn't hear us at all. Iwan Davies from the DPIE said he had nothing to add and ACEN pretended they were our best buddies and good neighbours! Seriously? None of us want this. They are not welcome and they are not our friends. You do not have social licence and nor do you have our consent.

The jobs for the regions is an absolute lie! We don't have the populations out here to support those numbers. We are expected to absorb 10,000 construction workers living in workers camps in our paddocks. Workers who will be predominantly from overseas, short-term single visa holders with no ties to the community.

We are fed up with the lies and we are fed up with being ignored. You are forcing us to fight every project when the issues we raise apply to every project. You demand respect from us yet you show us none. The dismissive behaviour of the government departments and from ACEN was nothing short of disgraceful. You refuse to consider anything we have to say yet you accept the word of the proponents.

It isn't good enough to say that you don't have time to address all the issues. That is your job and you need to read the material being put forward to understand the reality of what is being done to our country in the name of greed. You may well have to account for your dismissive attitude sometime in the future. The Australian people are paying your salaries as public servants to us. We are also paying for the subsidies paid to the renewables industry. Just where is your salary going to come from if the Australian economy collapses, jobs are lost and there are fewer taxes to pay your wages. You owe it to us to take your job seriously and listen to us. I can tell you from years of lived experience that you will not get the full story from the proponents.

Respectfully

(name withheld)