



TANYA NICHOLS

OBJECT

Submission ID: 238507

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Land Use Compatibility/Conflict, Cumulative Impacts, Traffic, Visual Impacts</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2333</i>	
Attachment: <i>Attached overleaf</i>	

Submission date: 12/02/2025 15:42

see Attached

12/2/25

Dear Commissioner

OBJECTION TO Muswellbrook Solar Farm SSD-46543209

I have watched and listened today to the panel of speakers to the IPC, and I am now petrified about the potential risk to our health and that of our children and neighbours by this Solar Farm in its proposed location, so close to 80 residential homes with potentially 300 residents.

We all bought our land some 20 years ago, as we wanted to live a lifestyle in the Woodland Ridge Estate. A healthy lifestyle that included breathing fresh county air, admiring the mountain and country views from our properties and giving our children access to birdlife and the abundant plant life in our estate, all within close proximity to town and our workplaces.

This could all be taken away by this potential health risk of a solar farm that OX2 proposed to put within **1.2km** from our properties. This **1.2km** being the distance that OX2 believed was the appropriate perimeter to allow us to be compensated for their intrusion on our lives.

The risks outlined by your many speakers and essential dismissed by the OX2's Helen Kennedy & Carla Evans, included

- Fire of lithium batteries and solar panels emitting poisonous gases and particles into the atmosphere
- Bushfire risk with exploding batteries and panels emitting poisonous gases into the atmosphere
- Hail stones and wind storms smashing the panels to release heavy metals
- Metals that can escape from the panels when being smashed and leaching into the adjacent Muscle Creek. This creek flows through Muswellbrook, through the golf course and into the Hunter River that feeds downstream to communities all the way to Newcastle Harbour.
- Views from our properties of this large solar farm being destroyed.
- Harm to animals grazing nearby and animals being displaced from their natural environment
- Accommodation for temporary workers in an already saturated rental market.

I watched the same presentations as you did, and I believe the only conclusion that can be made is that this proposal is in the **WRONG LOCATION**. Would you approve this if it was your neighborhood that could be so detrimentally affected, or your family that could potentially incur unknown health risks from this proposal and the unknown affects on our lands and waterways. It's now that you have the POWER to reject this proposal, so the effects are not felt later down the track when all these pollutants' true colours are seen. Take for example PFAS, asbestos, silicosis, we know they are deadly now.

Chair Neal Menzies repeatedly asked for any suggestions that could be given to the IPC to assist in the decision, and I offer this.....

The nearby and now closed Liddell Power station has been given approval to be demolished and is sited as the location for future renewable energy projects. This site already has all the infrastructure in place, including access to the power grid, access to the site by fully designed access roads and most importantly NO PROXIMITY to an established housing estate of over 80 homes. NO PROXIMITY to waterways that feed townships with drinking water all the way down to the Lower Hunter and Newcastle Harbour.

The ONLY benefit of this solar farm presented by OX2 for our town was employment. A WHOLE 9 final positions and the potential of 4 apprentices. Hardly a tradeoff for the impact it will make in its proposed location. The same said benefits to Muswellbrook can be received by the Solar Fram being in the alternative location at Liddell Power Station.

WIN WIN!!!!!!

Thank you for the chance to express my point of view and thanks to the other speakers for informing us **ALL** of the potential risks for the future of our community. I hope we are not only heard but listened to as well.

Tanya Nichols

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]