

29.05.2022

To Whom it May Concern

I write this submission in relation to FRWF's Stage 1 Pty Ltd.'s consultation on electricity generation licence application.

I am a 5th generation mixed grain and livestock farmer whose family has farmed in the Kojonup area for over 130 years. I'm involved in a family farming business that includes myself and young family, my parents and my two brothers and their young families.

As a farming business we own and operate farms in both the Kojonup and Broomehill-Tambellup Shires. Some of these farms adjoin the development site of the Flat Rocks Wind Farm. We have 2 separate properties including 3 houses that will join the first stage of this project, along with a further 4 properties with 5 houses joining the second stage.

Enel Energy as joint developers of this project are proposing to build 18, 200m high wind turbines in the Kojonup and Broomehill-Tambellup Shires. This farming area is high value, high production and very reliable. And is arguably some of the best farming land in the state. If this project is to be successful during construction and operation the developers must acknowledge and resolve the significant social and economic consequences that the wind farm shall have on the neighbours.

Before Enel is granted a license to generate power, I believe that some of consequences to the neighbours from this project need to be resolved. Considering the number of neighbouring properties that we have to this project it would be fair to say that we are significant stakeholders. Though this has not been the case, with the developers of the project only contacting us once in over ten years.

As a neighbour to this project the issues I have include.

- The developers should have adhered to current guidelines and recommendations when submitting their most recent development application. Currently WA Planning Commission guidelines are 1.5km setback to houses. This project only has a 1km setback and with there being many houses in the area this setback is insufficient.
- The minimum setback from boundaries and public roads is 60m in this project. The recommendations from the Australian Energy and infrastructure Commissioner are much greater than this. These setbacks are important to neighbours so that their lifestyle and livelihoods aren't greatly affected.
- That the wind farm shall greatly reduce our ability to use aeroplanes and helicopters for agricultural applications of fertilisers and the baiting of mice and snails. With turbines being so close to boundaries, not being able to use aeroplanes shall be a considerable cost to the farming area.
- That the wind turbines shall make the area unsuitable for aerial waterbombing during fires. It is quite common for waterbombing aeroplanes to be deployed in the shire to help control bushfires.

- During construction this project shall have a large burden on the local area. With the vast amounts of trucks and vehicles on small gravel roads being a concern. Also, there is already a major labour shortage in rural WA, which is affecting many farming businesses.
- And what affects this project shall have on the value of our land, and our ability to develop our property into the future.

I believe that renewable energy will play a big part in the future for Western Australia. But these projects must be completed with considerations of the people that shall be affected. Enel Energy haven't so far sought or addressed any of the neighbours' concerns. If they intend to be good corporate neighbours this should be paramount.

In summary I believe that before Enel is granted a license, they should be required to address the issues the neighbours have. In our one telephone conversation that we have had with Enel, we asked if they could come over and meet the neighbours and hear our concerns. This was in November 2021 and yet haven't heard back from them. I feel this is quite poor, considering they want to begin construction in July 2022.

I would be happy to answer any questions regarding the wind farm.

Regards Adrian Bilney.