

Your details

First and last names: Adrian McKenzie

Are you making this submission on behalf of an organisation: No

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My family and I live in proximity to the proposed Wak Wak Solar development - approx 1km. We bought in this area because we like living in the bush- this feeds into our 'Territory lifestyle'. We are long term Territorians and are raising our kids here. This with the other developments planned in the area makes it feel like it may not be the place we want to live long term.

Have the cumulative impacts of these developments been considered? Are there plans to include a cumulative impact assessment as part of this proposal? I am in support of renewable energy projects but question why a greenfield site was chosen. Surely there are sites already cleared or impacted that could be considered for this project. The wholesale clearing of native bush land is a major concern. There are several threatened flora and fauna species in the area - we can contest that the distribution maps for many of these species included in the referral report is not conclusive. We have many if not all of those species (and more) occur on our block.

What is the end game for the project site? Has a security bond been considered similar to those imposed on mining companies? Where is the community benefit from this project? Yes it is a renewable energy project - but it's earmarked to feed a heavy industry hub at Middle Arm. None of that seems to bring much community benefit from our perspective. I am part of the local fire brigade - has there been much consideration for how this type of infrastructure will be managed or protected from bushfires. As brigade members we are not trained or equipped to respond to structure fires - let alone manage battery fires. Will fuel load management and fire breaks be enough to manage that risk? Like I said I'm all for renewable energy projects, but can we try to be a bit smarter about it?