

# CALL FOR ACTION

HELP US PRESERVE OUR HILLS OF GOLD BY WRITING A SUBMISSION

If you love living at or visiting Nundle, Hanging Rock, Crawney and Timor please read the proposed Hills of Gold Wind Farm DA/EIS and state your objection during the public exhibition period from Wednesday December 2nd, to Friday January 29th.

The Hills of Gold Wind Farm DA/EIS is on public exhibition at the NSW government Major Projects website:

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/9701>

A Submission of one sentence is more important than no sentence, so please don't feel overwhelmed by the volume of information in the EIS.

We encourage you to speak from your personal experience, your connection to the area, what you value and what you want to see protected. Fifty unique objections will escalate the determination to the Independent Planning Commission.

## **HOGPI OFFICE ADDRESS:**

(NUNDLE GUITARS)  
62 Jenkins Street, Nundle

## **OPENING DATES:**

Open Saturday 19 December 2020, then every Wednesday and Saturday in January 2021 including Friday 29 January (last day for submissions)

Sat 19 December

Sat 2 January / Wed 6 January

Sat 9 January / Wed 13 January

Sat 16 January / Wed 20 January

Sat 23 January / Wed 27 January

Fri 29 January

**HOURS OPEN:** 9am - 4pm

Hills of Gold Preservation Inc members will staff a COVID-safe office at Nundle Guitars, 62 Jenkins Street, Nundle during the exhibition period to display personal and public photomontages, proposed transport routes, and assist with submissions.

The proposed Hills of Gold Wind Farm is not a choice between fossil fuels and renewables, but a choice about environmentally sensitive siting of renewables.

The NSW Energy Infrastructure Roadmap and Electricity Infrastructure Investment Bill 2020 identify the significance of community consent for proposed developments.

The majority of the Nundle and Hanging Rock communities have signed petitions opposing the proposed Hills of Gold Wind Farm and do not want to destroy the environment to save the environment.

**DETAILS:** Have one of our community volunteers help you write and send your submission and help preserve the Hills of Gold.



# NOW THE EIS HAS BEEN RELEASED WE KNOW:

## VISUAL AMENITY

• The proponent Engie and its consultants' EIS rates the "Scenic Quality Classes of the Landscape Character Unit" as "moderate" with some areas "low moderate" and "moderate high". Please let the NSW state government know what the Nundle Hanging Rock landscape means to you.

## VEHICLE MOVEMENTS

• In Chapter 12. Transport and Traffic, from page 225, we learn that for the estimated 13-month construction period Nundle and surrounds would experience an extra 240 daily light vehicle, worker bus, and truck movements (page 234).

• Currently 845 vehicles pass through Nundle, on average PER DAY. 12 trucks per hour. In the morning peak, 7am-8am, approx 38 cars through Nundle.

• During project types of additional vehicles: cars, mini bus, light vehicles, machinery trucks, water trucks. Total additional vehicles passing through Nundle during morning peak hour : 80 (over 13 months site establishment) and 141, 30 of these are trucks (13 months construction phase). Site establishment phase: extra 240 vehicles. Construction phase: 502 vehicles

### In summary:

• Traffic passing through Nundle will increase from 845 vehicles per day to 1350/day over 2 year site establishment and construction phases.

• An additional 30 trucks/hr will pass through Nundle in the morning peak times.  
• This means 1 vehicle every 20 seconds and 1 truck every 85 seconds.

## OTHER ROADS

For Tamworth commuters (Nundle and surrounds to/from Tamworth):

• An increase from 46 vehicles per hour(vph) to 189 (1 vehicle every 20 seconds)

For Hanging Rock- Nundle commuters along Barry road:

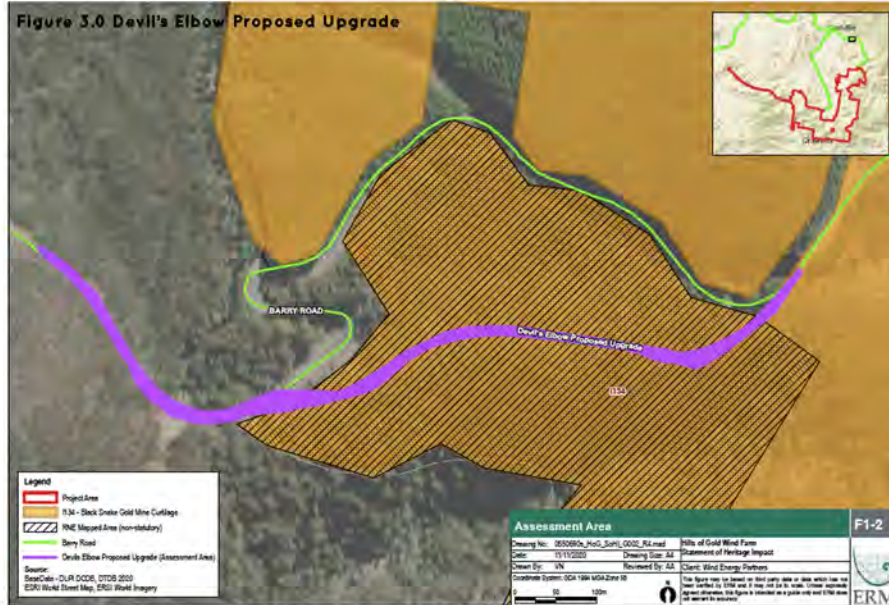
• An increase from 10vph to 156 in the morning and in the evening peak, from 38vph to 184 vph.

• For Jenkins St-Crawney Rd commuters, your traffic will double.

## ROADS / HERITAGE

• Page 238, outlines a Barry Rd and Morrison's Gap Rd northern route to the project area, **construction of a layby, and a deviation to bypass Devils Elbow on Barry Road.**

• The Northern Daily Leader, 5/12/20, reported on concerns about potential environmentally damaging impacts on European and natural heritage of the proposed bypass with a private road through Crown Reserves and Hanging Rock recreation areas impacting National Estate listed Black Snake Gold Mine tunnels, entrances and archeological remnants, and native vegetation.



The EIS outlines a potential southern route for blades and towers that includes loops within the village:

- **For Blade and Tower components:** Oakenville Street, Old Hanging Rock Road, Happy Valley Road, River Road, Jenkins Street, Crawney Road, and Head of Peel Road.
- **Shorter trucks would be able to bypass the centre of the town** by turning into Herring Street and Innes Street, then Jenkins Street to Crawney Road and Head of Peel Road.
- **An alternative route for blades that would use Herring Street, Innes Street, Gill Street, Point Street, Crawney Road and Head of Peel Road.**

Figure 3.45: Wind Blades Swept Paths Alternative Route South (Part1)





**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

• (Page 147) states that 513 hectares of the Development Footprint will be disturbed or cleared for the transport route, wind farm, and transmission lines. Of that 513 hectares, 42% or 206 hectares of native vegetation will be cleared.

• The Permanent Development Footprint is land permanently altered as a result of installation and operation of Project infrastructure comprised of:- Wind Turbine Generator foundations; crane pads; permanent access roads, including the transverse track; transmission line and transmission line access roads; substation, switching station and other facilities; and road upgrades required for the transport haul route.

• It is unacceptable that old growth trees, some plantings pre-dating European settlement and others over 100 years old, could be cut down for a renewable project. Some of the plantings, including some of the tallest snow gums in existence, are extremely rare because of the elevation and overlapping of bioregions. They cannot be offset or rehabilitated because they don't grow anywhere else. It is a unique location.

• (From EIS Page 194) Thirteen threatened terrestrial fauna species were directly observed within the Development Footprint, including Koala, Greater Glider, Spotted-tailed Quoll, Southern Myotis, Large-eared Pied Bat, Little-Pied Bat, Eastern False Pipistrelle, Eastern Coastal Free-tailed Bat, Little Bent-wing Bat, Large Bent-winged Bat, Greater broad-nosed bat, Eastern Cave Bat, and Grey-headed flying-fox.

• The detailed habitat assessments identified a high likelihood of occurrence for an additional four fauna species; Booroolong Frog, Border Tick-tailed Gecko, Eastern Pygmy Possum and Squirrel Glider. The field surveys identified two species of raptor most at risk of collision, Nankeen Kestrel and Wedge-tailed Eagle”.

**OBSTACLE LIGHTING**

•(page 84 EIS)The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) may potentially require lighting where turbines exceed 150 m in tip height, as has been the case for other wind farm developments in NSW.

• The proposed turbine height for the project is 230m to blade tip. The potential night lighting requirements for the Project may include two flashing red obstacle lights per turbine required to be lit.

• The aviation lighting has the potential to be a noticeable element in the night time landscape from areas around Nundle Village that have exposure to views towards the Project Area.



**COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND**

The Community Enhancement Fund Committee would be made up of members located within 20 km of the physically built project, including indigenous representation: 2 x Nundle, 2 x Hanging Rock, 1 x Timor/Crawney, 1 x Wallabadah, 3 x Councils, 1 x proponent (non voting).

The three council members select The committee for a two year period, unless voted to extend. There would be two funding rounds per year, with Council involved in safe keeping and governance, managing independent auditing, and paid an administration fee of \$5K per annum. The committee would decide on applications, provided for projects outside of council's existing responsibilities (community events, road upgrades and water management), meeting "additionality" criteria ensuring existing services are "enhanced". (From Appendix C.4)

The CEF would receive \$2,500 per operational wind turbine per year over the operational life of the Project.

# HOW TO MAKE AN OBJECTION

**ONLINE:** Visit the NSW Government Major Projects Portal "Hills Of Gold Wind Farm - Application Number SSD-9679"

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/9701>

**BY MAIL:** You will need a **Cover Page** and a **Submission Page**.

**Cover Page (Page 1) to include the following:-**

**Name:** (your name)

**Postal Address:** (your postal address for confirmation by Department)

**Personal Address:** (Local addresses are important)

**Director Energy Assessments**

**Planning and Assessment**

**DPIE**

**Locked Bag 5022**

**Parramatta NSW 2124**

**Date:**

**To whom it may concern**

**Re: Hills Of Gold Wind Farm Application Number SSD 9679**

I am attaching my submission to the above mentioned development application.

I hereby declare that I object to the Hills of Gold Windfarm proposal ID no.SSD 9679

I would like my personal details withheld. **(optional)**

I have not made any reportable political donations in the previous 2 years.

**(YOUR SIGNATURE)**

**Page 2: (Your Submission, Start with) OBJECTION**

Your submission is your chance to say why you think this proposal should be rejected, or what you love about Nundle, why you are here, your thoughts, any knowledge you have about the proposal and any reason it should not go ahead. At the top of the first page please ensure you include the following:

I hereby declare that I object to the Hills of Gold Windfarm proposal ID no.SSD9679

SUBURB: (your suburb)

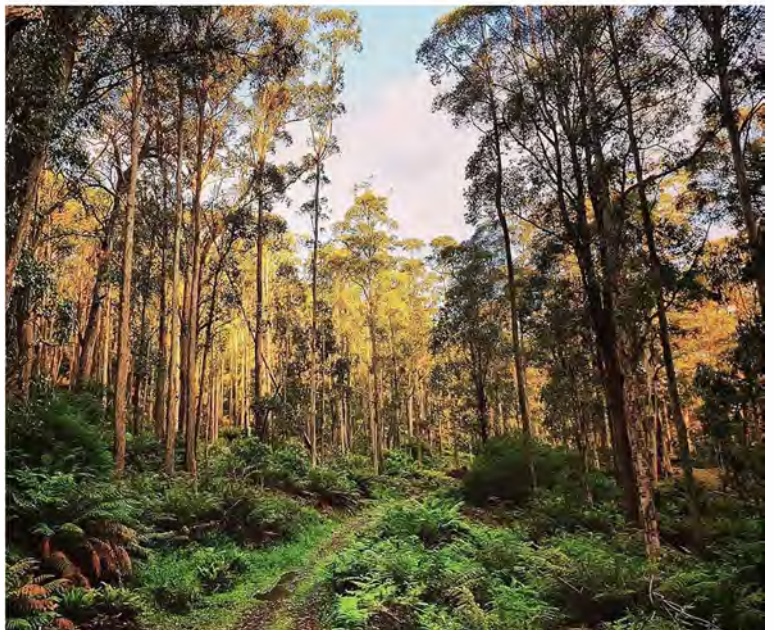
REASON FOR OBJECTION: (your submission)

**(PS. Do not include any personal details you do not wish to be made public)**

There is no limit to the number of submissions you can lodge with the Department as long as they cover different points.

**Submission starting points/ideas:**

1. Explain your connection to the area.
2. Why you love living here or visiting here and what is special about it and your way of life.
3. If this Project is approved, how will it affect you from day to day or on special occasions?
4. How will it affect plans or dreams you have for your property or life? Your children or grandchildren?
5. Any general or specific comments about the EIS?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Director - Energy Assessments  
Planning and Assessment  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta. NSW 2124

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**RE: HILLS OF GOLD WIND FARM APPLICATION NO. SSD 9679**

- I am attaching my submission to the above mentioned development application
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- I would like my personal details withheld
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



