

To the Department of Planning

### Large Scale Solar Guidelines

With the having dealings in relation to the recent approval of the Beryl solar farm I would like the following items considered in the solar guidelines for future projects.

Whilst the idea of renewable energy is a good thing for the environment the actual facts of the equipment manufacturing should be looked at as the green house gasses produced in making the solar panels are more than the green house gasses that will be saved over the lifespan of the panel, and just because the manufacturing of panels is not in Australia doesn't mean that the green house gasses are not there.

Solar panels only work to their full capacity when they are clean there appears to be no cleaning process or accountability in the continued proposed generation of power and with dusty conditions and no cleaning proposed these targets of power production need to be considered.

It is believed that solar farms have a huge benefit in adding power to the grid, this is only possible in daylight hours there is no storage for the power to aid the grid during the night or for when we have days of low light this has already given problems with power spikes and failures in other states. When the renewable energy has failed we then rely on fuel powered generators which are far worse than even coal powered generators in the production of greenhouse gasses. I believe there needs to be power storage to control the power distributed into the grid.

The proponent of any solar farm should not be allowed to use desktop studies to support an application in relation to noise. The Department of Planning should in fact have their own studies made and not just trust what is proposed by an applicant as figures seem to be in favour of a development just to get it approved.

There should also be a strong involvement from the department in making sure all affected adjacent land holders to a development site be properly informed of a project. Community of a development area should be given the opportunity to attend an information meeting at a time outside of working hours not when it is most suitable for the applicant.

These developments should not be allowed near residential property whether the adjacent land has any development on it. Considerations in relation to property values to the surround area need to be acknowledged as it is not fair to the land owners around these developments suffer the loss of value to their land due to such developments. The environmental, noise and visual impacts considered by the Department of Planning does not see that these impacts are exactly what makes up for one's property values.

The sites selected for the renewable energy should not be prime agricultural land there are many other places for these such as areas that have been mined and rehabilitated and the land is not viable for anything else. Mining sites usually have purchased a large buffer zone around the mine site which would give a lot less of an impact to a community.

It should be made available to the public all contract documents and how the dollar value is determined of these developments is made. It is believed that we could build cleaner coal powered generators at a far lower cost and having a large amount of coal resource in Australia why are we not using this technology which can be controlled day and night to meet the power grid needs.

Thank You for reading

Regards Allan Griffiths