

Submission
No 79

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY
ZONES (REZ) ON RURAL AND REGIONAL
COMMUNITIES AND INDUSTRIES IN NEW SOUTH
WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 24 January 2025

Partially
Confidential

The SW REZ has had and continues to have a deleterious effect on community culture and relationships as well as landscape in our area.

Our area comprises predominantly native grasslands with areas of timber along water courses, is fairly flat open country and used for grazing with a small amount of cropping. It is pristine Riverina grazing country with limited imposed development from human intervention in most cases. Our amenity in choosing to live in this area revolves around natural space, nature, low noise, awesome sunsets whilst grazing and caring for animals and small areas of cropping. This is all planned to be ripped up with so called renewable infrastructure littering our landscape.

- This whole area is set to be littered with huge holes filled with concrete for wind turbine tower foundations, the towers themselves as well as large areas covered in solar panels infiltrating our landscape.

- Traffic levels have already increased massively on our local roads and will get worse as projects crank up and work forces enlarge.

- There is a large divide through sections of my local community based on whether a landholder is hosting so called renewable infrastructure or not.

- The financial benefits are massively skewed toward those hosting the infrastructure, while those neighbouring such facilities are exposed to all the negative impacts (in many cases more so than the hosts) yet receive a pitiful amount of recompense.

- Water bombing aircraft are used extensively in our area to assist in containing fast running grassfires. Anecdotal evidence gathered (and basic common sense) suggests that aircraft use around turbines will be limited at best, grounded at worst. If this eventuates, suppressing fast running grassfires in areas where wind turbines are located will be more difficult and potentially dangerous for ground crews.

- Those neighbouring these developments and wearing all the impacts are receiving very little consideration or compensation. There is huge amounts of money being spent in towns where people never see the infrastructure or have to deal with the impacts. This is grossly unfair and inequitable.