

Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

Submission No: 273
Submitted by: Cedric Creed
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

We are a group of FOOD PRODUCERS in the Callide Valley that have been fighting a industrial solar factory (Smoky Creek solar factory) for coming up seven years. It is on PRIME FOOD PRODUCING LAND which Queensland only has 2.5% of it's area on a 9000acre lease (36 square km). As direct neighbours we were notified by a mailbox drop, the company or hosts didn't have the decency to ring or call in to tell us. No community meeting was ever held even though they had a newspaper article saying there would be. We have written well over 400 letters to all three levels of government, government departments, bureaucrats and been to government run REZ workshops with no suitable answers or results ever supplied. We also have written via a solicitor to the company edify energy in October 2021 outlining our concerns with this project and still to this date not received a reply. I would like to strongly suggest a public hearing to be held in Biloela as it is in a REZ zone and I be called as a witness to speak about our shameful experience. We have been treated like lepers by this company. *Firstly you must change your terminology "solar farms , wind farm", farms produce food these industrial projects don't. It is used to soften the development. * Clearly in our case social license must be adhered to, simple, don't pass don't get approved. We as neighbours get no benefit at all, just become collateral damage and have our lively hoods ruined. There are no "police" to pull these mostly overseas companies up. * Look where these REZ zones along on the eastern seaboard are, all on our prime food producing land. Callide, Darling Downs, Armidale, Dubbo, Riverina and places in Victoria. What are governments thinking? *No one pulls up these companies lies, whether it's government or media. Why? * We all know that there is a labour shortage but these companies continue to lie about all the work for the locals. But projects to date bring their workers in and have big camps on site. then only a handful of permanent workers after construction. *The mental health caused by these projects is out of control. I know myself I go do a job on our property and my brain is thinking about the huge solar factory over the fence that will ruin us. It is affecting my decision making ability. It is not being addressed. *Now in Europe, micro plastics are being found in meat products some undoubtedly coming from shedding of wind turbine blades. We as producers will have our carcasses condemned at the meatworks due to no fault of our own but because of the host next door. This will also extend to the nasties in solar panels and batteries. Who is going to compensate us? *This whole business has been set up to allow these projects to have free rein to come into a community make a few people rich and stuff the rest. The companies are exempt from all the rules all other developments have, no EIS no REEF RULES, no TREE CLEARING rules and worst of all NO POLICE TO PROSECUTE THEM. Even this inquiry submission our local state member forwarded it to us with five days before it closes. We have to wasted another day and going unpaid to write this up. That has been the same under the ALP. * Having written over 400 letters and time wasted going to workshops, we don't get payed as we take time out of out working days, it has added up to well over a year out of our life. We are trying to protect our lively hoods and our kids future and your FOOD SUPPLY. WE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO BE THE POLICE HERE!!!!!! * All projects should be "CALLED IN" immediately and made go through a much more stringent approval process as most have lied their way through the current WEAK approval process. Not just a token one here and there, ALL PROJECTS. What is this government doing to protect or food security? What is this government doing to protect future generations of food producers?

What is this government doing to protect our biodiversity? What is this government doing to Help the communities being run over by these unethical companies? What is this government doing to help the mental health of those affected? *This is the pink bates all over again but much, much,

much worse. In conclusion, how many examples do you need to see that this stuff is not the answer. Spain being the most resent, Germany has gone from the European power house to a basket case, we saw at Broken Hill, all the wind and solar there and still no one had power. You as the leaders of this state are driving us back to the stone age. Cedric Creed