

From: [Karen Zirkler](#)
To: [Portfolio Committee 4](#)
Subject: Re: Impact of Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) on rural and regional communities and industries in New South Wales - Post hearing responses - 17 July 2025 - Mrs Karen Zirkler
Date: Wednesday, 20 August 2025 9:24:07 AM
Attachments: [image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)

Dear committee,

My apologies for missing this deadline.

I shall have to live with whatever was published in my transcript. But if not too late to have an impact, my answers to supplementary questions are as follows:

(1) Renewable advocates say offsetting is enough. Given your habitat restoration work, do you think offsets actually balance the scale of projects being proposed?

Answer: No. Offsetting is nonsense. It's a net loss. Some ecological communities/species are almost gone. The quantum of developments proposed/approved will likely place them into extinction.

(2) You've emphasised adaptive livestock and cropping regimes. Have any energy developers engaged to test eco-friendly operations instead of just installing panels?

Answer: All but one have not. Only one early developer (Uralla Solar Farm - UPC) approached the local landcare network (where I work) to educate themselves and co-design such possibilities, mainly because one of the host landholders is a member of landcare and promoted this collaboration. No other developers have done this.

Once again, my apologies for the lateness of this reply.

Kind regards, Karen.