

Submission
No 148

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

Name: Arleen Packer

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Sorry that we are so late with this submission and thank you for extending time for us to reply to you.

I represent the community at Yarrowyck and Balala in New England, where the huge majority of people oppose the building of the proposed wind farms in this area.

There are about 50 properties housing 150 people in the Yarrowyck area, I know this from mail box letter drops, many of these houses are within 2 km of the development proposed by EDF Renewables. I cannot see that there is any social licence here for this development.

At both Yarrowyck and Balala our main concern is the environmental effect of wind farm development.

. The proposed development follows ridge lines where the last remnants of woodland remain. We have already lost 85% of our woodland habitats and now it seems like we are to lose the rest.

These areas are home to numerous endangered species and is one of only two places where the critically endangered regent honeyeater has breeding grounds.

We are also known as an ark for koala populations which are now listed as endangered. As temperatures rise, koalas move from the plains to higher and cooler places, this population movement is well documented.

We are concerned about the noise effect of the wind turbines which extends 3.5 km each side of each turbine. Again the fact that animals and birds move away from this noise effect is well documented. So the real effect of the wind turbines is much greater than just the road clearing.

We agree with RED4NE in that we do not oppose all the renewable development in New England but we would like to reduce the number of wind farms in this area.

I am able to show you some of the areas where wind turbines will be built in Yarrowyck of Balala, if you have time to visit.

yours faithfully

Arleen Packer