

From: [Ross Johns](#)
To: [Info](#)
Subject: Renewables
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Monica Revell and Council, We would like to commend Yarrambiack Council for the excellent work they have embarked on, with the position on “Renewables, Mining and Transmission lines”. The Yarrambiack independent and rational consideration of the proposed significant, changes to our regions risks and amenity.

Given the rushed and poorly planned process adopted by Government, it is essential we conduct independent environmental and noise amenity background work.

The environmental work will need to be conducted over a 12 month period to account for migratory and some nomadic species. With a full environmental survey of the Hindmarsh swamps and bush land areas, grasses, shrubs and trees, through each of the seasons. We may need your assistance in this work to ensure the thoroughness and quality.

We will also be conducting independent acoustics background testing around occupied dwellings close to Warracknabeal and Wilkur Energy Parks . We highly recommend Hindmarsh Council does the same for urban areas of Nhill (3) and Jeparit(2), if conducted at the same time significantly discounted rates will apply.

We also highly recommend that Councils building inspectors oversee the quality and workmanship of these enormous structures. The purpose of doing so is to ensure multinational corporations, driven by profits do not compromise the safety of workers, residents or tourists to our region.

I also reference the below quote from the, “Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner”, website around safety and permits;
“Finally, large scale renewable projects do not currently require a building permit as the structures do not correlate to existing National Construction Code. Therefore, the regular checks and balances provided for by a building permit that is in place when building, say, a 50-storey building, are currently not present when constructing a fleet of say, 280 metre tip height wind turbines. The rationale for excluding large-scale renewable from requiring a building permit should be re-assessed to determine whether a revision is appropriate.”

Health and Safety Matters
aeic.gov.au

We also believe the insurance and health risks around battery installations require some closer scrutiny. Most renewables projects will likely have battery storage close by in high fire prone areas. The 2 proposed batteries for the Warracknabeal Energy Park could easily be in the half a billion dollar range and pose significant risk to all residents.

Including insurance risks and health risks if consumed by fire with resulting smoke impacting Warracknabeal residents.

Our organisation highly values, proper process and ethical personal and corporate conduct.

We fear the reason, government has short cut community safeguards, of building and planning is to build structures that don't comply with any existing building rules or in-fact have significant structural defects. No resident or land owner can build a house, shed or any planning scheme change without Council building inspection or complying with planning rules.

Yours sincerely,
Ross Johns
Wimmera Mallee Enviromental and Agricultural Protection Association.

Sent from my iPad