

**From:** "Kim Connor (Northern NSW LHD)" <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thu, 21 Oct 2021 11:56:48 +1100  
**To:** "Council Email" <Council@clarence.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Attention Lesley- secretary to GM, re petition against Solar plant Southgate  
**Attachments:** 0485\_001.pdf

Hi Lesley,

Please find attached the signed petition opposing the proposed development of a massive Solar Plant in the prime agricultural land of Lower Southgate, specifically 58 Boormans Lane, by Alex and Pam Macleay, and the company Infinergy.

We would ask that this matter and petition be presented at the next Council meeting this month, and were advised to present it to the GM in this manner.

We understand that Council may not have received anything at this stage in writing from Infinergy, they are still saying the development is in the early stages of planning, despite the company and the Macleays planning this for the past 18 months. We understand that an EIS is being undertaken. There has been quite extensive land clearing, dam enlargement and drainage undertaken by Macleays recently- presumably in readiness for the project.

All local landowners and residents are against this proposal, as evidenced by the petition. It is an appalling violation of our Visual Amenity, and there are significant environmental concerns, as well as concerns that the prime agricultural land, that has been for sale for a long time as a potential Dairy Conversion, is to be wasted for food production whilst being covered by a massive Solar Plant- over 300 acres...

We are not against Solar power- in fact most of us have Solar panels on our rooves, - it is the location that is intolerable to us.

Yours Thankfully

Kim Connor - on behalf of the 'No Solar For Southgate' Alliance.

[REDACTED]

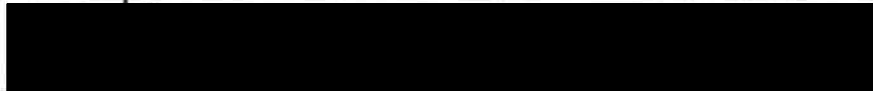
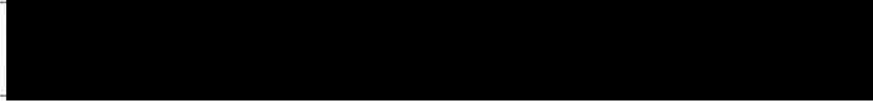

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 21 October 2021 12:34  
**To:** Kim Connor (Northern NSW LHD)  
**Subject:** Attached Image

This message is intended for the addressee named and may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete it and notify the sender.

Views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, and are not necessarily the views of NSW Health or any of its entities.

## Petition lodgement form

Subject of Petition:	To oppose the proposed large scale Solar Power plant in lower Southgate.
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Number of persons who have signed the petition	45
Number of signed pages attached	5
Date	20/10/21
Name of person lodging petition	ANDREW WILSON
Signature	
Address	 SOUTHGATE 2460.
Contact phone number	
Name of organisation or group (if applicable)	No Solar For Southgate.

### PRIVACY STATEMENT

Apart from petitions in relation to development applications, information provided to Council in a petition is protected by the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act, 1998. This is embodied in Council's Privacy Management Plan which is available on Council's website or on request. Any questions concerning privacy or the use of personal information should be referred to Council's Privacy Contact Officer.

Details of persons signing a petition will generally only be used by Council to verify that the signatories qualify as having a direct interest in the Clarence Valley Local Government Area as required by this policy.

To oppose the proposed large scale Pelican Solar Power Plant in lower Southgate.

Reject this poorly thought-out proposal as it has many detrimental problems, not the least of which is its choice of completely inappropriate location as its proposed to be placed on prime farmland, adjacent to a National Park and its Internationally recognised Everlasting Swamp. Also, a nearby nature reserve with Koala habitat, a State Forest and the Clarence River, the site sits at the catchment directly into both Blueys Creek and Warriagai Creek both feed the Everlasting swamp. And as such putting at risk many listed endangered species both animals and Birds.

Site is highly prone to hail storms, environmental risks and contaminant leaching into the fragile surrounding environment.

The site is isolated during flood events with no access from the North, South or West.

Loss of agricultural land.

Loss of visual amenity for neighbours and community.

Concerns for noise and lighting from industrial Plant area.

Loss of property values with no compensation.

Risk of breaching international agreements with reference to migratory birds.

The site included a crown road to allow about 10 neighbouring properties to the North high level flood access. This access has existed for about 100 years, this road access has already been closed by the property owner in preparation for the Industrial solar plant, no consultation with impacted neighbours.

## Petition

To the Mayor and Councillors of Clarence Valley Council

Subject of petition:

To oppose the proposed large scale Solar Power Plant  
in Lower Southgate.

Action requested: We, the undersigned, request the Mayor and Councillors of Clarence Valley to:

to abandon any industrial solar development  
in the Southgate area, given it's completely  
inconsistent with its locality.

Name (please print)	Address (please print)	Signature
Diane Pearce	Lawrence RD. Via Grafton NSW.	
Ted Pearce		
Greoff Newberry	Lower Southgate	
Jackie Newberry	"	
Karen Zylstra	Southgate	
Andrew Zylstra	Southgate	
Michael McKEOWN	Ulmarra	
Kim Connor	Southgate	
Peter Connor	SOUTHGATE	
Anna Gimes		

Attach additional pages as necessary  
Maximum of 12 signatories per page

SOUTHGATE.

# Petition

To the Mayor and Councillors of Clarence Valley Council

Subject of petition:

To oppose the proposed Large scale Solar Power Plant in Lower Southgate

Action requested: We, the undersigned, request the Mayor and Councillors of Clarence Valley to:

To abandon any industrial Solar development in the Southgate area given its completely inconsistent with its Locality

Name (please print)	Address (please print)	Signature
Cathy Chapman	[REDACTED] Southgate	[REDACTED]
PETER OSTENFELD	[REDACTED] SOUTHGATE	[REDACTED]
ALISON OSTENFELD	[REDACTED] Lower Southgate	[REDACTED]
Anita Osterfeld	[REDACTED] LOWER SOUTHGATE	[REDACTED]
Sarah Osterfeld	[REDACTED] Lower Southgate	[REDACTED]
Susan Kearney	[REDACTED] Stillmatic	[REDACTED]
Judy Pereira	[REDACTED] Ulmarra	[REDACTED]
Stephen Pereira	[REDACTED] Ulmarra	[REDACTED]
CHRIS HARDING	[REDACTED] ULMARRA	[REDACTED]
PAUL WINMILL	[REDACTED] ULMARRA.	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Attach additional pages as necessary  
Maximum of 12 signatories per page

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Abandon any industrial Solar development in the Southgate area given its completely inconsistent with its Locality

Name (please print)	Address (please print)	Signature
Donna Drayton	Lawrence Rd.	
Rene DANTON	Lower Southgate	
GREG MOSS	Lower Southgate	
TUYET MOSS	Lower Southgate	
Karen McIntosh	Southgate	
Dale McIntosh	lane Southgate	
Frank Biddle		
Jennifer Biddle	"	
Shannon Davis	Southgate 2460	
Naomi Davis	Lower Southgate 2460	
Sean Davis	As above	
VOIKER RUELLE	LOWER SOUTHGATE	

Attach additional pages as necessary  
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To abandon any industrial solar development in the Southgate area given its completely inconsistent with its locality.

Name (please print)	Address (please print)	Signature
Maria Felton	[REDACTED] Southgate	[REDACTED]
Bryan Felton	[REDACTED] Southgate.	[REDACTED]
AUREY MARSH	[REDACTED] SOUTHGATE	[REDACTED]
Aimee Chaffey	[REDACTED] Southgate	[REDACTED]
Brooke Wilson	[REDACTED] Southgate	[REDACTED]
Jon and Heather Keats	[REDACTED] Lower Southgate	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Agneta Hansell	[REDACTED] Southgate [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
PATRICIA STOKES	[REDACTED] ULMARRA [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Stephen Crimes	[REDACTED] Lower Southgate	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Attach additional pages as necessary  
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Subject of petition:

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To abandon any industrial Solar development in the Southgate area give its completely inconsistent with its locality

Name (please print)	Address (please print)	Signature
ANDREW WILSON	[Redacted] Southgate	[Redacted]
LOUISE WILSON	[Redacted] Southgate	[Redacted]

Attach additional pages as necessary  
Maximum of 12 signatories per page





Infinergy Australia Pty Ltd  
PO Box 38  
Sandy Bay, TAS 7006

[info@infinergypacific.com](mailto:info@infinergypacific.com) E-mail

25<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Resident,

We, at Infinergy Australia, are reaching out to update you regarding the solar development we are currently investigating in your area at lower Southgate. The proposal will be known as the Clarence Valley Solar Farm (not the Pelican Solar Farm) and is expected to have a generation capacity of approximately 85MW.

The purpose of this letter is to introduce our newsletter (copy attached), which we will circulate periodically to keep the community updated of our progress. The newsletter will provide information regarding the proposal along with our contact details. In addition to this, we have also set up a project website which will provide details about the proposal and its design and will be updated as our assessment progresses. The website can be accessed at [www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au](http://www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au).

As we indicated in our introductory letter (dated the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021), we are in the early stages of the development process, conducting scoping and feasibility assessments along with initial consultation. While we know that it has been frustrating to some that we have not been able to meet in person, we have appreciated the feedback we have had from neighbouring residents to our initial proposal. Based on feedback that there are concerns regarding the proximity of the proposal to local residences, we have extended the study area to include additional land holdings at Lawrence Rd, Lower Southgate and 100 Dilkoon Rd, Dilkoon. This extended study area (see newsletter), will allow plenty of scope to refine and optimise the design of the solar farm in order to avoid, minimise and mitigate potential impacts.

We have been advised that some households who received our letter would appreciate it if we addressed correspondence to them personally. If you would like us to do this, please forward your preferred details to our email or our postal address (above).

I would like to reconfirm that we have a range of ways that you can contact our team regarding the proposed Clarence Valley Solar Farm:

- Email – [info@infinergypacific.com](mailto:info@infinergypacific.com);
- Letter: Infinergy Australia Pty Ltd, PO Box 38, Sandy Bay, 7006, TAS;
- Telephone calls – 0418 632727 (Jane Ross – Project Director); and
- Zoom calls.

If you would like to make a time for a call or a Zoom meeting to discuss the proposal with a member of our team, please contact me on 0418 632727 or alternatively email us at [info@infinergypacific.com](mailto:info@infinergypacific.com) and we can organise a time.

Further to this, we will be organising a series of face-to-face consultation sessions as we progress the proposal through the development process. We will let you know the timing of these events via our newsletter and on our project website ([www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au](http://www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au)) or we are happy to email you directly if you would like to provide your details.

Please find the first Clarence Valley Newsletter attached.

Yours sincerely,



**Jane Ross**  
Development Director

# Clarence Valley Solar Farm

## PROJECT INTRODUCTION & UPDATE



## INTRODUCTION

We, at Infinergy Australia, are reaching out to inform and update you of a new and exciting solar development proposed in your area at lower Southgate. The map (**right**) shows the general location of the proposal (approximately 13 km to the northeast of Grafton and 9 km to the southwest of Lawrence), while the plan (**overleaf**) details the exact location of the area we are investigating for the Solar Farm.

The proposal, if it were to proceed, would be a State Significant Development (SSD) with a generation capacity of approximately 85MW. The location would avoid the need for new 'poles and wires' as it would connect directly into existing National Grid infrastructure via the onsite electricity lines that cross the site.

We are in the early stages of the development, conducting scoping and feasibility assessments. The initial design for the proposal is provided on the plan overleaf. It should be noted that the study area for the proposal has been extended in response to initial feedback from neighboring residences. The large study area will allow us plenty of scope to refine and optimise the design of the solar farm in order to avoid, minimise and mitigate potential impacts.

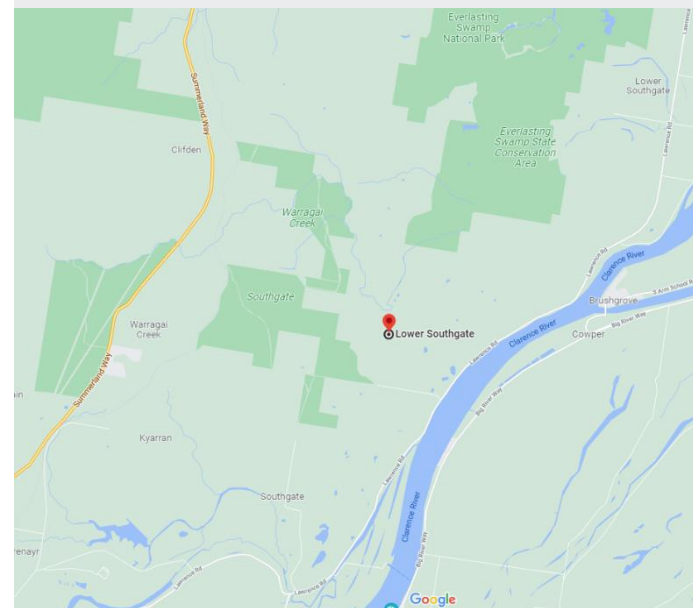
At this stage of the proposal, the Solar Farm would include the following elements:

**Solar Arrays** – The largest component of the solar farm would be the solar arrays. Each panel (approximately 2.2m x 1.1m) would most likely be mounted on a single-axis tracking system that follows the sun over the course of the day. At its maximum rotation, the panels would be elevated to a maximum height of 4.0m above the ground. Trackers and panels would be arranged in symmetrical rows aligned north to south.

**Screening** – A series of native vegetation screens would be planted at visible boundaries of the solar farm to reduce the visibility of the proposal and screen security fencing.

**Supporting infrastructure** – This would include inverters (which convert the 'DC' electricity produced by the panels into grid friendly 'AC' electricity); a small substation to connect the solar farm to the existing onsite electricity lines; internal access tracks; security fencing; a battery storage facility; and an operations and maintenance building.

## LOCATION



## HOW CAN I STAY UP TO DATE?

We will write and circulate newsletters in the local community and will detail all significant project news on the project website: [www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au](http://www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au)

If you would like to be added to our email news list, please email us at: [info@infinergypacific.com](mailto:info@infinergypacific.com)

[www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au](http://www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au)

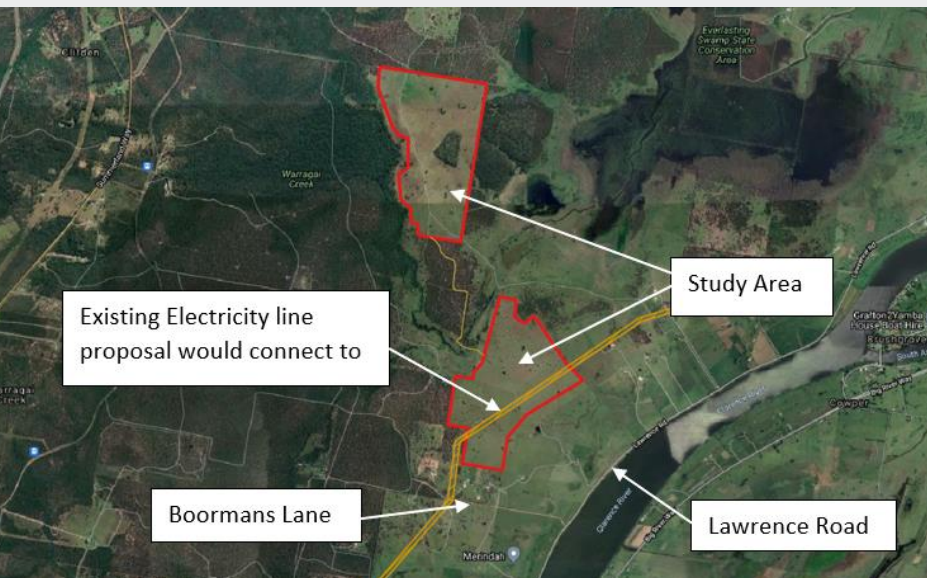
## Project Status

The team is currently working on a Scoping Report to submit to the Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE). The DPIE is the consent authority for SSD renewable energy projects in NSW. The graphic below provides a summary of the SSD approval process. The DPIE will use the Scoping Report to issue Secretary’s Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) which prescribes the technical studies required to support a formal Development Application for the Proposal.

### What is a Scoping Report?

A Scoping Report provides preliminary information on a project and its potential impacts which is used to support a request for SEARs. The lodgment of a Scoping Report is the first step in a long assessment process (see graphic below), that typically takes up to a year, in preparation for a Development Application.

After SEARs have been issued, we will complete the technical assessments identified by DPIE to include in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This is likely to require comprehensive landscape, noise, ecology, cultural heritage, and transport assessments.



## HAVE YOUR SAY

We would like to hear your views about the proposal. You can get in touch with us in a range of different ways:

- Email: [info@infinergypacific.com](mailto:info@infinergypacific.com);
- Letter: Infinergy Australia Pty Ltd, PO Box 38, Sandy Bay, 7005, TAS;
- Telephone: 0418-632727 (Jane Ross – Project Director);
- Project website: [www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au](http://www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au); and
- Zoom calls.

## CONSULTATION

We will be hosting a series of face-to-face community consultation sessions throughout the development process. The timing of these events has been delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions, but we will let you know by mail drop, and on our website as soon as these can be scheduled.

As the design process is iterative, consultation is important and ongoing. The team will continue to revise and improve the design of the proposal based on assessment findings and community feedback.

If you would like to speak to us before we host face-to-face consultation sessions, or to find out more, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Jane Ross, Project Director  
 Email: [info@infinergypacific.com](mailto:info@infinergypacific.com)  
 Phone: 0418-632727  
 Web: [www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au](http://www.clarencevalleysolarfarm.com.au)

## NSW STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL PROCESS



*We're at the first step of the EIS process.*