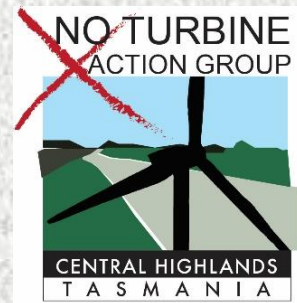


NO ST PATRICKS PLAINS WIND FARM

HIGHLAND LAKES RD, TASMANIA

WRONG PLACE



"I have travelled, worked and fly fished all round the world and I am very passionate about preserving Tasmania as one of the last iconic destinations which offers peace and ambience for our future generations" Malcolm Crosse, Director of Operations, 2019 World Fly Fishing Championships

Who Are We? The No Turbine Action Group Inc (NTAG) is a not-for-profit community group from diverse backgrounds who have an affinity with and connection to the rugged wildness and unique cultural landscape of the Highland Lakes area of Tasmania. We are strongly opposed to the inappropriate location of the St Patricks Plains Wind Farm development by Epuron. We are not anti-development and support viable renewable energy projects at better sites in Tasmania. Our passion is to protect the remoteness and unique scenery, wildlife, recreational and heritage values of a place in the heart of Tasmania that is special to many from all parts of the world.

Who Is Epuron? Epuron is the Company which undertakes the planning process to gain approvals for wind and solar farm developments around Australia including other projects in Tasmania. Once approved, Epuron on-sells the Development Approval to an investment company, usually foreign, with ownership of essential infrastructure in Australia and profits going offshore.

What does the Project entail? St Patricks Plains revised wind farm proposal is an installation of 47 gigantic turbines 240 metres tall (three times the height of Hobart's Wrest Point Casino) on 10,000ha of land belonging to 6 private landowners. The highly visible turbines straddle a large section of the Highland Lakes Road (the Lake Highway) between Bothwell and Miena, some within 1/2km in distance from the roadside, as well as sections of access roads to Penstock Lagoon, Shannon, Wilburville, Flintstone Drive and Arthurs Lake communities. Epuron plans to construct or upgrade 78km of roads within the wind farm boundary.

What are Our Concerns? The turbines are too high, too many and too close to roads, communities and sensitive fauna and flora. The Highland Lakes Road is a popular touring arterial route from the North to the South of the State with many outstanding scenic, geographical and historical features along the way including the Steppes State Reserve's bronze sculptures, homestead (circa 1864) area, and hall with its yard containing a series of plaques and information panels commemorating the harsh lives of European pioneers and shepherding families in unforgiving conditions. The strongly promoted visitor, recreational and tourist attractions based on natural, cultural and heritage values would be severely compromised by wind turbines along the roadside and on the horizon, the beauty and serenity of fishing and camping experiences at world famous Penstock Lagoon (venue for World Fly-fishing Competition 2019) would be greatly diminished.

The proposed wind farm site is an ecological hotspot, with a significant number of high altitude and wetland environmental communities including listed endemic rare and threatened plant species that are extremely sensitive to disturbance and whose distribution is limited to a small number of specific locations on or near the site.

Turbine noise would be heard in nearby communities (Shannon, Penstock, Wilburville, Flintstone) with some residences less than 3km away from the nearest turbine. Cattle Hill turbines can be heard at Penstock Lagoon 7 km away. Noise amenity and visual amenity, important in an area valued for those qualities, would be lost. Residents are very concerned about an inevitable decrease in property values.

Increased risks of fire to property and personal safety are of grave concern with aerial fire-fighting ability made difficult due to the proximity and layout of the turbines.

The site is an optimum habitat for threatened Tasmanian Wedge-tailed eagles (with 18 nests within or close to the boundary), who are vulnerable to collision with huge turbine blades, are extremely sensitive to disturbance and intrusion and whose nesting and hunting territory would be compromised. There is insufficient protection from displacement caused by human activities or death by blade with a ridiculously inadequate 1km buffer distance (of turbines from nests) being applied.

We Need Your Help

This is a David and Goliath scenario. We need widespread support to preserve the Highland Lakes area for future generations to enjoy. We have engaged one of Australia's most prominent and successful lawyers with extensive knowledge of wind farm developers' operations. We have a good case to stop this development but acknowledge that it will be difficult.

YOU can help stop Epuron's inappropriate industrial intrusion into a unique area of Tasmania.

**Join NTAG's campaign (\$10 fee) – member list is confidential
And PLEASE make a DONATION**

by going to our Website - SUPPORT US and completing a simple subscription process:
www.noturbineactiongroup.org and making a deposit to:

Bank: NAB

Account Name: No Turbine Action Group Inc

BSB: 087728

Account Number: 824739588

Description/Reference: Your name

Your support will help us fund research, advocacy and publicity about St Patricks Plains turbines and give us access to the best environmental and planning consultants and legal advice in Australia.



St Patricks Plains Wedge-tailed eagle (photo Helen Ridley)

Contact Us by Email: admin@noturbineactiongroup.org

Visit our Website: www.noturbineactiongroup.org

Like us on Facebook