

From: "brudymac@bigpond.com" <brudymac@bigpond.com>
Sent: Sun, 11 Feb 2024 11:21:03 +1000
To: "Hinchinbrook Shire Council" <council@hinchinbrook.qld.gov.au>;
"johnmbuttigieg@gmail.com" <johnmbuttigieg@gmail.com>
Subject: Submission of objection to the Mt Fox Battery Energy Storage Park
Categories: Emma C;CRM

You don't often get email from brudymac@bigpond.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hinchinbrook Shire Council
Buttigieg

John M

Attn: Planning and Development Team
Road

405 Oak Hills

PO Box 366
Fox QLD 4850

Mount

Ingham

QLD
4850
[@gmail.com](mailto:johnmbuttigieg@gmail.com)

[johnmbuttigieg](mailto:johnmbuttigieg@gmail.com)

9th February 2024

RE: MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE AND RECONFIGURATINOF A LOT ENERGY
FACILITY ERAN ROAD, FURBER ROAD AND KNUCKLEDOWN ROAD, MT. FOX

REFERENCE NUMBER MCU23/0005, RC23/0016, OPW23/0007

I am a resident and land owner at Mount Fox.

I am concerned and distressed by the first step of industrialising the Mt. Fox region for the
following reasons:

1)

There has been neither surveys nor consultation with the broader resident community. The known demand (and vocal support for the project) is commercial and business interests and these interests will be the only beneficiaries.

2)

This is the first stage of an incremental industrialisation of a place that has escaped clearing and modification for sugar and improved agriculture. The landscape is wholly intact, and it is these places that deserve to be untouched.

3)

The forests of the Mt. Fox area are a refuge for a myriad of threatened and vulnerable species because of the absence of clearing. It is an oxymoron to think climate change can be tackled by pushing species to extinction with inappropriate 'green' developments.

4)

The carbon storage and biodiversity contained in the forests to be cleared for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and the proposed Wind Factory is far more important than a row of lithium batteries.

5)

The BESS is a precursor to the Mt. Fox Wind Factory. The BESS is only useful when sited with energy generation such as the wind factory. It will not be used to store energy from Kinston Pumped Hydro nor the Upper Burdekin Farm as suggested by the developers.

6)

The developers have been untruthful in their application in regard to the purpose of the BESS. The BESS, as shown in other developments is primarily used in firming the grid. This will be used for the proposed adjacent Mt. Fox Wind Factory to firm

the energy generation (which is intermittent, unreliable and therefore an expensive source of energy). The developers are being sneaky by pushing the BESS first for approval so the adjacent Wind Factory component can be pushed through as a fait accompli.

7)

The fire risk is real! Proposing a BESS in some of Australia's most spectacular and highly biodiverse forest is mind-numbingly stupid.

These forests surrounding the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area at Mount Fox are considered some of the world's most precious ecosystems. The presences of remaining areas of high value forest suggest that a business-as-usual approach, might not be appropriate for a power project in a sparsely populated area of high environmental value. I applaud the Wet Tropics statement position on wind farms and their reference to cumulative impacts, no-go zones, and in which the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) have been highlighted.

Wet Tropics Management Authority position: 1

I therefore recommend that the Hinchinbrook Shire Council consider the Precautionary Principal and not approve this Material Change of Use application.

Thank You,

John M Buttigieg

John M Buttigieg