

MEDIA RELEASE

Palerang rejects additional wind monitoring towers

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Plans for a controversial wind-plant on the Molonglo Ridges near Queanbeyan received yet another set back this week when Palerang Councillors unanimously voted to reject two additional wind-monitoring towers on the proposed wind-plant site, saying they were in conflict with the local environmental plan which restricts development on ridgelines.

Wind-plant developers, EHN (Oceania) Pty Ltd, a Melbourne-based subsidiary of Spanish company EHN, told Councillors at a previous meeting that the wind-monitoring towers were needed to provide data to their financiers in advance of the actual wind-plant.

The defeat comes in the wake of strong opposition to the wind-plant from both Queanbeyan residents and rural residents in the surrounding area who say the wind-plant is too close to residential areas.

Both Palerang and Queanbeyan City Councils have previously expressed their opposition to the wind-plant, as have State and Federal MPs Steve Whan and Gary Nairn.

Molonglo Landscape Guardians president, Margaret Ritchie, said it was clear that the local community was being heard by its elected representatives and that she hoped the developers would take notice of residents' views and withdraw the proposal. "To continue with the proposal knowing the strength of feeling against the wind-plant would show a complete lack of respect for the views of the local community" she said.

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