

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 September 2026 5:45 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Objection - Solar farm

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 23 September 2026 1:37 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Objection - Solar farm

17 September 2026  
Chief Executive Officer  
Douglas Shire Council  
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- Application Reference: MCUI 2026\_5936/1
- Proposal: Material Change of Use for **Solar Farm (including ancillary device for storing and releasing energy)**
- Property Location: Lot 2 on RP748154 – 6868 Captain Cook Highway, Killaloe QLD 4873

I am writing to formally lodge my objection to the proposed 7-hectare industrial development at 6868 Captain Cook Highway, Killaloe. As a resident/stakeholder of the Douglas Shire, I request that Council refuse this application based on the following valid planning and environmental grounds:

The applicant repeatedly refers to this project as a solar "farm" to soften its impact, but this terminology is highly misleading.

- ## 2. Degradation of Scenic Visual Amenity

- **Impact on Tourism Gateway:** Constructing an industrial utility factory destroys the pristine rural character, natural landscape, and scenic green gateway that visitors expect when entering our world-renowned tourism region.

- ### 3. Destruction of Prime Agricultural Land

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- **Protection of Fertile Soils:** While the local sugar industry faces transitional challenges, regional planning schemes dictate that prime agricultural land must be protected for future food production, agritourism, or sustainable crop diversification.
- **Precedent Risk:** Allowing an industrial factory to permanently decommission this rural land sets a dangerous precedent for the widespread industrialisation of the shire's fertile rural plains that could be utilised for other agricultural purposes.

#### **4. Bushfire and Environmental Safety Risks**

The location is highly vulnerable to seasonal weather extremes, and the development introduces severe environmental liabilities.

- **Specialised Fire Hazards:** Operating an industrial-scale electrical plant and potential battery storage unit presents severe, specialised chemical and electrical bushfire risks in a rural zone where local emergency services face logistical and access and capability constraints.
- **Deficient Risk Management:** The current application lacks a comprehensive fire management strategy tailored to the unique chemical hazards of large-scale solar infrastructure.
- **Runoff and Flooding:** The physical clearing and installation of impervious panels risk changing localized stormwater runoff patterns, exacerbating flooding hazards on the surrounding low-lying plains during heavy wet-season events.
- **Great Barrier Reef Contamination:** In the event of a catastrophic structural fire or thermal runaway, toxic chemical runoff and atmospheric pollution present a direct, unmitigated threat to the local catchment, the Great Barrier Reef ecosystem, and protected marine wildlife such as green turtles.

#### **5. The application does not comply with Section 9.3.17 Rural Activities Code of the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme.**

For these reasons, I believe the proposal fails to comply with the strategic intent of the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme. I urge the Council to protect our scenic gateway and refuse application MCUI 2026\_5936/1.

Please confirm receipt of this properly made submission and keep me updated on the progress of this application.

