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Submission: Thank you for providing the opportunity to receive submissions relating to the proposed licence for a sewage treatment plant for the Kyeema development in Gundaroo

I am a landholder on the Yass River, living on an area of land that has been used for farming since settlement of the area in the 1840's and by indigenous people for thousands of years prior to white settlement.

I am concerned about the potentially damaging impact the introduction of a reticulated sewage type of system could have on the surface and ground water quality in the Yass Valley.

The theory of this type of system seems to have merit but on closer review little has actually been tested. This is too great risk for other landholders along the river and for the council. Specifically my concerns include:

1. The lack of experience the company has in running and/or managing sewerage, potable water systems and effluent irrigation systems. This means there is a high risk they will not be able to identify issues when they are in an infant stage and thus issues may escalate unchecked.
 2. This leads to the risk from the company is they system fails. Will the Yass Valley Council and its ratepayers be exposed to this liability? Will the Council have the ability to manage the clean up and/or the system should it or the Kyeema company fail. Will the system operator under a WICA licence hold sole responsibility (and compensation) for a contamination event?
 3. Where is the evidence that the system that's being proposed works in our climate, with our soil types and fractured rock environments to promote it as a sustainable system for our Valley.
- little in practice has been tested.

Healthy land is essential to having a healthy environment and in turn healthy people. The unknown risk of contamination of our ground and surface water from the proposed system is actually unknown and I recommend further analysis and options are considered before licencing the system recommended by Kyeema.