

Over the past three year I have been involved in wind turbine issues, during this time I have gone from a pro wind turbine person to a negative wind turbine person. Initially my belief was that turbines provided us with an opportunity to do something proactive about global warming. Thus they had to be a good thing for future generations, let face it, past and current generation have not respected the planet in anyway.

So this then raises the question of what has changed my opinion of wind turbines. Below are several core points that have moved me away from turbines been located near communities and further more make me question the viability of turbines at all.

26 tones of concrete used in each turbine, the production of concrete is one of the worst green house gas producers

Turbines are now up to 3.5megwats, that means any origan guidelines are outdated as they were based on 1.5megawats

turbines have been proven to kill eagles, one of the most graceful creatures and also protected by the Australian government

Turbines are and will not be “base load” producers. That is to say, no wind, no energy, days of 30c turbines have to be turned off, and even if wind is to strong turbines have to be turned off.

Turbines have a life span of 25year, at which point they are decommissioned, but no guarantee of anyone removing them or the concrete that is still there.

Turbines have been associated to significant health risks due to low frequency noise  
The infrastructure required for each turbines destroys more land, trees, and native fawner, thus increasing the negative impact on the planet

Governments seem to favour turbines, they are a visual implement that the government can point to a say look at what we are doing

The owners of the turbines that effect our local communities and receive our government funding are all OS companies which take their profits off shore

World health organisation has highlighted distance between turbines and homes should be a minimum 2klm, just to prevent health issues.

Turbines in other countries are now been turned off and removed  
Not everyone likes the visual impact of turbines on the landscape

Image this, a turbine the size of the lower tower of the Rialto Building in Melbourne. Each tower housing a 3 megawatt engine, each turbine on a base of 26tones of cement, each turbine producing low frequency noise, each turbine producing blade flicker, each turbine only been used in rather specific conditions. then ask yourself, why are our governments funding multinational companies to continue erecting these things in our local communities.

Over the past three years I have seen a state government that would not listen to the endless flow of information regarding turbines and there placement so close to homes and small rural communities. These communities have got together to increase their voice in an attempt to be heard. People have donated money for advertising campaigns highlighting health issues, people have travelled huge distances to stand on the steps of

state parliament in an attempt to be heard. People have gone to the media in an attempt to be heard, and now people are taking the time to write submission to this enquiry in our final attempt to be heard. Much the same way that people went through the same processes when trying to be heard about asbestos products and their health effects. Our governments are acting on behalf of the people, I realise this is an idealistic view, but at some point when enough voices are heard government must act. The committee established to look in to turbines should do so, with some core points in mind and I believe them to be

what health effects are turbines having

what distance should turbines be so as to NOT have any effect on the residents near them

what energy do they actually put back to the grid

what conditions are turbines turned off in eg temp, wind ect

what green house gas is produced in the total production of turbines

How effective are turbines

who makes the financial gains from turbines

will turbines actually reduce green house gas

where should turbines be located

when will the turbines be removed and how will that happen

why is the government driving for more turbines rather than other renewable energy sources

I trust this committee will not only evaluate the benefits of wind turbines but also appraise the impact that turbines are having on our local communities, wild life and landscape through regional areas. I believe it is the responsibility of government to do what is best for its people, not just what is best for the sitting government of the day. Turbines look great but on all evidence I have seen fail to provide any real improvement to the environment. I trust this committee will take such things into account when making your decision.

Kindest Regards