

Senate Enquiry

The Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms.

I believe that while the wind industry is young and 'in-experienced' in Australia compared to the rest of the world, it is an industry which has incredible potential in this vast yet productive land of ours.

To put it most simply, the benefits of wind farming far outweigh the negatives, especially given most negative associations to wind farming are speculation as opposed to fact. I see the benefits of the wind industry first hand as I'm often driving around rural Victoria and NSW. I see the improvements to local infrastructure including roads, intersections, and lighting. I see improvements to towns, including shops, parks, gardens and hotels. I see improvements in business to local B&B's and rental markets, as well as a general increase in population and tourism which obviously increases revenue for local produces. The industry is benefitting a whole range of people, and I feel that as the industry grows here in Australia, we will adjust to this contemporary type of farming, which is of course very good for our environment, but also for the people. For this adjustment to happen, it takes an increase in exposure, but also an increase in positive attitudes towards the industry.