

The Clerk of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT

Dear Madam,
Please find enclosed the hard copy of my submission to the Senate inquiry into wind farms,

With regards,

Yours truly,

Brian J.H. Osborne

11/2/2011

Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT
9 February 2011

To Whom it May Concern

RE In Support of Rural Wind Farms

As a grazier and farmer I wish to convey my strong support for wind farms and to reassure the Senate that despite living near to wind turbines myself, my family and my employees I have suffered no health effects and no sleep disturbance. Furthermore I have not noted any bird strikes, nor impacts on my livestock or crops.

I live within 800 metres of modern 2MW turbines and have a large number within 1 km of my house. As such I feel qualified to comment on the supposed negative impacts of these machines. In the approximately 2 years that the turbines have been standing, I have noted no health effects in myself or my family. My livestock graze and breed happily amongst the turbines – indeed we have had two of our best breeding seasons ever recorded in my family's 150 years on the property (although I hesitate to attribute this to the turbines per se). I have not noticed a decline in birds, nor any strikes.

The income from the turbines has allowed me to employ and support people in the local community as well as undertake long overdue environmental works such as erosion control, tree plantings, and locking stock out of remnant native vegetation.

I urge the Senate to see the larger picture and support the country's transition to cleaner fuels, whilst at the same time give the rural economy the chance to survive and perhaps even thrive.

Yours truly

Brian J.H.Osborne

10 February 2011