

7-2-2011

Senate Community Affairs Committee. Secretariat

Dear Members of the Committee.

I take this opportunity to express my strong and enthusiastic support for Wind Farms in Victoria, particularly in the area which I live.

I do not believe we have the right morally and ethically to ravage our fossil resource for short term gain as we are doing at present.

Wind energy offers a great addition to alleviate this dilemma.

I have inspected some eight Wind farms around Australia. Of all those Wind farms, I found only one turbine that was noisy. It obviously had a problem.

The area where I live, near Darlington is known as Western Plains country Flat, windy and to most people who drive through the area, quite boring.

However this is a very productive area for food and fibre. The farms in this area have reduced to very few due to economic hardship in the past.

Our small community struggles with so few to support structures, e.g. Fire Brigade, Churches, Sporting groups etc..

I believe this is the ideal location for Wind farms, with an outstanding wind test. Farms well spaced apart, and at least 90% support from the community for such a development.

The community are very supportive of such developments because they know the locally owned farms that are recipients of wind towers spend their income in their own community ensuring a permanent and stable work force.

It is a general feeling in the community that Wind farms can only enhance the value of land because the value of land in this area is based on productivity and not influenced by residential rural or close to major city valuations.

I have seen some Wind farms built in areas where the participating farms are between 150 & 300, acres. This means the towers must be quite close to some homes. This must be avoided.

The participating farms involved with the local proposed Wind farms would average more than 2000 acres. This I believe will eliminate health and noise issues.

as towers will be well away from homes.

The benefit in having Wind farms in the right area can be enormous for the local community, benefits that can last for 30 or 40 years.

I certainly give my strongest support to Wind farms in the right area in Victoria.

Yours faithfully

David. E. Rentsch.