

20/01/2011.

To the senate inquiry regarding the following subjects;

Adverse health effects, environmental impact and devaluation of property.

My name is Leanne Robinson; I live within 5 ½ km from the nearest turbines that belong to the Waubra wind farm-industry. My home is located at [redacted] [redacted]. I live with my husband and four children. Recently two of my children have moved out of the district. In the beginning when the turbines were been built and the talk of green energy been produced, I thought this would be good for the environment and provide employment opportunities.

On March 10<sup>th</sup> 2009, I awoke not feeling well, in fact I initially thought I must have had a stroke. I could not sit up properly and kept fall backwards onto the bed, feeling disorientated. Eventually I was able to stand up but felt dizzy. I kept to my routine in preparing to go to work for I had to go to a conference in Bendigo. The more I moved about less dizzy I felt. I was able to drive to work in Maryborough were I meet another colleague whom then drove their car to the conference. To my dismay this conference was cancelled and we then returned to Maryborough to work. Next morning on the 11<sup>th</sup>. I awoke in the early hours of the morning feeling very nauseated, breaking out in a sweat, each time I moved my head the room seemed to spin about. I went to my doctor in Clunes whom diagnosed Vertigo. The doctor was baffled why I had vertigo for I never had this before. I did not have an inner ear infection nor hit my head which can cause vertigo. I visited the doctor several times over the week, in which he tried the Epsy maneuver to settle the crystals in the inner ear that maintains ones balance. This was unsuccessful, so I was then referred to an E. N. T. specialist in Ballarat, after one treatment the vertigo was gone. I have had several bouts of vertigo since but able to do the exercise that the ENT specialist shown me. I would awake in the early hours around 3am with symptoms of nausea and the sensation of dizziness when moving my head, but I

eventual fall asleep to awake later in the morning with no symptoms. I do now suffer from tinnitus which comes most days. The high pitched sound causes me some distress at times but I am now getting used to it.

The environment has changed since the turbines have been activated. My husband and I would sit on the veranda watching the large wedge tail eagles fly about drifting on the warm air currents calling out to each other. Very rarely now do I hear or see them in the numbers that were around the district, the birds seemed to move away. No one has study the habitats of these magnificent protective bird. Why have their numbers depleted? If the eagle had to migrate out of the district due to turbines, where would they go when so many turbines are to be built in regional Victoria?

Properties have been affected in value. Ask yourself would you buy a property with turbines next to you or as your primary view? There is a permit for another 62 wind turbines to be built in Waubra north which would be three Km from my home. Would I be able to sell my 30 acre four bedroom home at the market price, I do not think so. No real estate agent is going to state that my place would be devaluated for fear of been sued.

There are so many unanswered questions, no real independent studies. Wind turbine companies pay for all these studies and publish them in papers. If the wind turbine industrial conducted studies are safe, then why have people sighed clauses in contract when turbines placed onto their properties. These people are not allowed to speak of any issue affecting them or be sued by that company. Bias studies that are not true reflection on long term physical health, mental effects on humans and the impact on the environment. The real impact cost is to small regional communities that lives with industrial wind turbines. I understand we must reduce our carbon foot print but to what cost do you place on peoples well being especially young children. The impact on those affected is placing their concerns that the senate investigates

thoroughly and is independent from using the wind turbine research which is bias. Thank you for listening to my concern.

Yours sincerely,

Leanne Robinson