

SENATE ENQUIRY INTO THE SOCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPACT OF RURAL WIND FARMS

To whom it may concern

My parents, Anne and Allan Schafer, live on their 100 acre farm at Berrybank, Western Victoria. A 100 turbine wind farm has been approved on their boundary. There will be 16 turbines within 2 kilometres and 57 turbines within 3 ½ kilometres, surrounding 3 1/2 out of 4 sides of their home. I am very concerned for their health and well-being because of the potential negative health impacts of approved wind turbines being placed too close to their home. They have both recently retired to this picturesque property and our family enjoy many visits there. We are not only worried for our parents, but also for ourselves and our baby son if we spend time on the farm after the turbines are operating.

There is increasing evidence, worldwide, that wind farms can cause serious health problems for those living nearby. These wind farms should not be constructed until extensive, independent studies are conducted into their impacts. Governments should be ensuring that people do not suffer any negative effects.

Stuart Schafer