

We offer you our views regarding possible difficulties for our local community should rural wind power farms be established in our district.

In doing this we hope that in considering concerns about the installation of an industrial process in this rural community you will keep foremost in your judgement the possible effects on human lives which the wind farms could cause to the people of this community.

1. OPINIONS

*Rural communities have a strong viable purpose and influence in the balanced nature of the life of the whole nation: of its physical, mental, intellectual and spiritual health

*Rural communities do not exist foremost to serve the viability of the nation's industrial needs or solely or predominantly as supply sources for the material needs of cities

*Rural communities have an inherent designated role as guardians and protectors of the land and its resources and of their own communities

*Rural communities need to be able to retain the mutual supportive social structures of neighbours-working-together-locally and must be protected from the vitiating effects of socially disruptive forces aimed at the aggrandisement of industrial power or wealth building imbalances for people in other areas which disruptions would ultimately corrode the quality and purpose of human living in the wider community

2. FACTS

* The region between Beaufort and Skipton is in danger of becoming disparate in character : partly rural, partly industrial

* The people of this area are at a considerable distance from the two centres of power which govern their respective Shires (Ararat and Camperdown).

* The Kennett realignment of the original shires in this area split the unity and endangered supervision and support of the needs and capabilities of this community.

* The social entity located in these adjacent corners of Pyrenees Shire and Corangamite Shire occupies a space which, if the wind farms are established here, would be sacrificed to industrialize and empower the growth of Ballarat, Geelong and Melbourne without benefit to local people. Another Latrobe Valley would have been created

*The people of this rural area have historically contributed the skills of a high ratio of their members to excellence in many professional and political areas of Australia, an outcome of applied balanced life values in the families of the region

3. CONCLUSION

*To retain the demonstrable social worth of the Beaufort-Skipton plains' community informed government attention is needed to protect the human needs of members of this rural area so that its best human contribution continues to contribute to the wider benefit of our whole Australian society.

Thank you for reading and considering our views.

B.J. Hall and F.M. Raschka