

Submission to the Senate Committee for the Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms

My submission is in relation to the Allendale East wind farm approximately 18 km South of Mount Gambier SA.

I was aware in early November 2008 that a 47 tower wind farm was being built around us. The closest one was going to be 600 metres from my dwelling. They have since removed that turbine and now I have approximately 6 turbines less than one kilometre from my dwelling and place of work.

My concerns are:

1. The effects of these turbines on our Dairy enterprise from shadow flicker which will effect the cows at our new robotic dairy which we have just had built. The shadow flicker on us and employees will also be horrific due to the fact that when you see something moving in your peripheral vision your attention is drawn to it which could be detrimental during stock and general farm work.
2. The noise and infrasound, effect on the cows in their loafing paddock at night as they will be in a gully approximately 500 metres from the closest turbine.
3. The visual impact and loss of amenity will be huge. I enjoy sitting outside looking to the north which I have an exceptional view of Mt Schank and the bicentennial tower at Mount Gambier.
4. The health and safety effects of employees and ourselves. I would like to see more research done on the health effects of turbines on animals and people living in close proximity to turbines. Until further research is done it may be wise to have them no closer than 10 kilometres from peoples dwelling or place of work.
5. Our new Dairy operates by wireless transmission. The cow records and their health will be transmitted by wireless to two houses. It will send which cows have been milked their results and litres. It will also send an alarm if she is unwell.
6. Growth of the local community. The Allendale School is within two kilometres of the Allendale East wind farm, as is half the town. Land holders around the turbines will not be able to build new houses for their family or employees. The Eightmile creek community are becoming greatly divided between those who have signed contacts and those opposing the development. How many more communities are going to be divided due to the inappropriate placing of wind farms?
7. Land values. It is a well-known fact that where wind farms have been built. People like Acciona, transfield and AGL have bought small blocks of land to shut people up. These purchases have been at a considerable loss to the owner (their homes, life style and all the reasons they were living there). Land values of turbine recipients do not drop, however land values of the adjoining land holders are reduce by 30 to 40 percent depending on the situation.
8. It is up to the local councils in SA to approve wind farm developments. In this development a panel of seven decided to crucify the landscape and the people living in this area. Who becomes accountable when they make the wrong decision? Why should land holders foot the bill when they have to fight for the right to live and work their land in a court of law?

9. I have also enclosed a contour map of the approved wind farm showing the number of dwellings affected by this project. I might add there are approximately 5,000 dairy cows within this area with a large number of centre pivots which could be largely affected by the turbulence created by the wind farm. This in turn would have a detrimental effect on farmers' incomes.

Our landscape is a non-renewable resource. We cannot create more of it. It is the background and setting to our lives, and helps to identify us as Australians.

The Australian landscape is a resource which we hold in trust for future generations.

As its present custodians we have a responsibility to conserve and manage it wisely, protecting it from inappropriate development, so that it will enrich the lives of our children and successive generations.

Richard Paltridge

(...)

Buffer Distance (m)	No. of Houses in Zone
< 500	0
750	2
1000	15
2000	68

Allendale Windfarm

Rural Residences Within 2 km Distance

Legend

Rural Residences

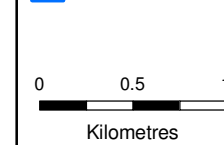
Within 2km

- No
- Yes
- ▤ Residences of Interest
- Proposed Turbine Layout
- Collector Substation
- Collector Substation & Switching Station

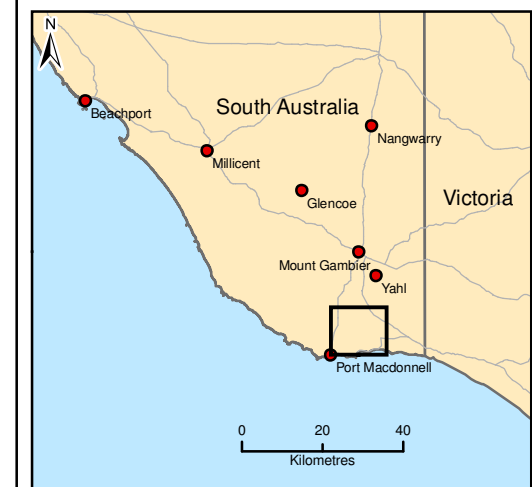
Turbine Buffers

- 100
- 250
- 500
- 750
- 1000
- 2000

Site Extent



Location Map



Data Properties

Map Grid of Australia - Zone 54 (UTM)
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94)
Australian Height Datum (AHD) levels in metres
Map generated October 2010 by
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