

Federal Senate Inquiry
'Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms'

To inquiry members,

Firstly we wish to identify our interest in this inquiry by stating that we are one of the nearly 1600 investors in Australia's first community wind farm known as 'Hepburnwind'. We have been encouraged by the enthusiasm of like minded people who see the obvious need for clean alternative power generation that will take our electricity needs into the future.

We have just returned to Australia from a holiday in Europe. During our three week stay in Germany we were impressed by the rapid implementation of both solar and wind power generation. In this highly developed industrial country the government has the foresight to positively encourage clean generation of power in a world of dwindling fossil resources. We therefore hope that Australia will not take a negative approach to sound and proven technologies that will greatly benefit our future power needs.

It is obvious that before any project can proceed, a full environment impact study and all legal requirements must be satisfied before approval can be given. But this process should be simplified to ensure that the majority of community support is not derailed by minority pressure groups who oppose development for political or commercial self interests. We are sure the committee will review all the health, medical research and social impact literature that have already been completed and published that clearly demonstrate positive outcomes in favor of wind power generation.

We therefore **strongly support** the further development of windfarms to help meet the future power needs of our Australian community.

Yours sincerely,

M.G. Ginger &
J.H. Ginger