

To the Senate Inquiry,

Two years ago I purchased \$1000 worth of shares in Hepburn Wind for my (then) 7 year old son's Christmas present. It was the only thing I could afford that would make his world a better place. He was then (and is now) extremely concerned about climate change and the deteriorating state of our environment. Not that I want to alarm him, but he watches enough nature documentaries and has seen enough news stories to have pieced it together.

It is clear that renewables (and wind in particular) are an essential part of our response to climate change, and the Senate Committee should not propose provisions that would make the development of this industry more difficult or onerous.

Furthermore, current research and scientific investigations have found that there are no adverse health effects for people living in close proximity to wind farms (i.e. low frequency noise and infrasound are within accepted thresholds).

Studies have found no statistical evidence that wind farms reduce property values, and in fact, the employment benefits are substantial and widely spread across regions, and provide considerable opportunities for individuals and communities where they are located, including the land owners who host turbines.

In short, wind represents a clean, safe source of power that will never run out. In making the transition away from polluting coal, wind will help clean up our air, water systems and improve the health of our communities.

Susan Wills