

Submission:

“I am writing to express my support of wind farms in general.

Renewable energy must be part of our response to climate change, and wind power is one of the most accessible forms.

Land owners can benefit from a new source of income, without any measurable impact on farming operations. Farmers need all the alternative forms of income they can get at the moment!

Communities benefit from job creation, local investment and the community funds that are commonly implemented by project proponents. The Hepburn Wind project is expected to provide more than \$1,000,000 to the local community over the next 25 years — the local community will benefit more than the landlord.

Wind farms are widely supported in the community. Hepburn Shire received 343 letters in relation to the Hepburn Wind Project, with 95% in support. Recent NSW polling shows more than 85% support wind power.

With more than 100,000 turbines installed globally, wind farms are not new. Community wind farms are common in Europe — Denmark has more than 2,100. These projects empower local communities to constructively engage in the transition to a future without pollution.

Australian states already have a well developed wind farm planning controls which are among the most onerous in the world. Any changes to these controls should be equitably and consistently applied across other industries and be informed by science.

The Senate Committee should not propose provisions that would unnecessarily make the development of the Australia wind industry more difficult or onerous.”

**Karen Sutherland**