

The Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms

To whom it may concern,

I have been working as an environmental coordinator for a renewable energy company for the past 3 years. In this time I have spent countless hours working in and around a number of wind farms throughout Victoria, working with local residents and contractors in areas where wind farms operate. I have not seen any evidence that wind turbines directly impact the health effects for people living nearby.

In my view "health professionals" such as Nina Pierpont and Sarah Laurie are using scare tactics, rather than any evidence to frighten residents into believing that their lives are being negatively impacted by wind farms.

I deal with local contractors whom work 4 – 5 days a week around turbines. They have never shown any symptoms of so called "wind farm syndrome". I too have never been affected or any other person that I have worked with.

Over the past 3 years of my employment with a renewable energy company I have seen the effort my company has made to connect and support the local community, whether that be through the use of locally manufactured parts, use of local contractors, local employment and supporting the community with funding.

I am of the strong opinion that renewable energy companies are helping to support the economic growth of rural communities. I have seen the lengths that our company is willing to go to, to work with and support the local community.

Thanks for your consideration of my views. I must note that the views I have expressed are solely of my own and my personal experiences working in and around wind turbines and with the local community.

Kind Regards

William Grainger