

Submission:

“I write in support of rural wind farms.

The increasingly erratic weather patterns and wild storms that we have experienced in the last few years, tend to suggest that the scientific community are correct in their climate change predictions. Now is not the time to be restrict or impede the move to renewables, as a community we need to pursue with haste the move away from fossil fuels and focus all our efforts on renewables.

Windmills have formed part of the Australian rural landscape since early settlement. It is a piece of machinery that has been employed as a form of energy to raise water from bores. Wind turbines are the next step in that evolution. Land owners would benefit from a new source of income, without any measurable impact on farming operations.

Current research by respected institutions supports claims that wind farms pose no health risks for people living in close proximity.

The wind industry employs more people per unit of energy than either coal or gas generation and the resulting jobs are widely spread across many regions.

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.”

From: **Sarah Cook**