

**SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE INQUIRY
INTO THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF RURAL WIND FARMS
PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

**Submission: PROPOSED TRANSFIELD WINDFARM AT COLLECTOR OF
60 - 80 TOWERS**

Contact: Sally & John Hoskins

We live and run a 450 ha farming operation. Our boundary will be within 1 km of the proposed windfarm and our house is approximately 5 km.

Some concerns and issues we have are:

1. **ADVERSE HEALTH EFFECTS** : Adverse health effects from living in close proximity to wind turbines. The Government needs to facilitate more research into the worrying health effects we are hearing about from people already suffering from them, ie. Increased blood pressure. The research should be directed to the infrasound which can travel and effect people up to a 10 km radius of the turbines.

2. **VISUAL IMPAREMENT**. We live in the Lake George Valley that has a major escarpment. This is an icon of the area and Australia and in the past local council has stopped any rural dwelling being built there. Now State Government is going to let wind turbine companies build roads and wind towers along the escarpment, these turbines are higher than the harbour bridge. How would residents in the city feel to have these wind towers on Sydney Heads and along coastal beaches – could that be the power of the vote?

3. **REDUCED PROPERTY VALUES** : * Property values for affected areas will be reduced as people become aware of health side effects from wind turbines.
* Property values will be reduced as the wind turbines are placed on ridges ruining the natural vista with their gigantic proportions as visually they are overwhelming

4. **LOCAL COUNCIL** : Local Councils have been side-stepped and the windfarms have become State Government significant projects. The big companies are pillaging the local area by reaping big profits and don't have to answer to local concerns that the rest of us have to live with and abide by.

5. **SOLAR** : We have signed up to install solar power back into the grid on our farm. I would personally welcome any solar farm proposal on my farm or where the wind towers are proposed.

6. WIND FARM COMPANIES : These companies have already divided our community with their secrecy and policy of dealing with individuals. Landowners with windtowers are receiving money which the rest of the effected community receive no compensation. For example, our neighbour (who lives in Sydney) is getting approximately 40-50 towers on his land. He is not effected visually or health wise, however we will be enormously affected living underneath them each day.

7. BOND WITH LOCAL COUNCIL FOR FUTURE REMOVAL OF WINDTOWERS : Upon the completion of their live expectancy - there seems to be no firm evidence in place that anyone will remove these large things once they have broken down.

Surely they should be made to put a bond with the local council that will cover the entire removal and landscaping of any road damage that has been as a result of the wind turbines.

JOHN HOSKINS

SALLY HOSKINS