

From: **Philip Schier**

Submission:

I am a resident of Castlemaine, in rural central Victoria and I write to support rural windfarms.

There is overwhelming scientific evidence of the need to address human-induced dangerous climate change as a result of greenhouse gas emissions, and that Victorian electricity generation is a major contributor to this due to its dependence on burning brown coal

A rapid increase in diverse forms of renewable energy generation is absolutely necessary and wind power on a large scale is an essential part of that mix.

No health risks for people living in close proximity to windfarms have been proven. Even if there are some which emerge in future studies, these are vastly outweighed by the demonstrated risks of fossil-fuel based electricity, both to nearby residents [such as in the Latrobe Valley and indirectly to the rest of us via climate change impacts.

There are demonstrable local economic and employment benefits to a more distributed system of generation, as well as the greater reliability of supply and reduced transmission losses.

I would welcome wind farm development in my local area and am disappointed at State Government moves in Victoria to make this much more difficult.

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

regards

Philip Schier

Councillor and resident  
Mount Alexander Shire  
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