

I live at Eight Mile Creek in South Australia near the proposed site of the Allendale Wind Farms. I am a farmer and a grandmother.

I am concerned that I do not think there has been enough time and effort put into studying the health effects (either direct or indirect) of people living near wind farms. The companies admit that the towers can emit infra noise, but discounts the effects of this. I have no significant science background, but on googling the effects of infra sound I find that it can have quite severe effects on a person. To my knowledge the National Health and Medical Research Council, have not done any studies on these effects i.e. infra sound, from wind towers and therefore cannot say they will, or will not, have any health effects on humans or animals.

I believe that in South Australia it is only 500 metres, that a wind tower is required to be sited from a dwelling. I would like to see regulations regarding these towers to be uniform, Australia wide, and a lot further from dwellings until more research is completed. I would prefer them to be at a distance of 5 kms from my dwelling.

My husband and I are nearing retiring age, and like most farmers our farm is our superannuation fund. With a wind farm in our area, the prices are most likely to drop, and therefore so does our superannuation. To have worked our farm for over 30 years and survived all the ups and downs of farming and loose value on our investment because of the wind farm is worrying. The wind farms will not guarantee that property values will not drop.

There also needs to be an area, (set by regulation) of say 3kms from the perimeter of the wind farm, that all owners of property are required to be notified by their local Council, of the proposal. To date this is not done, only adjoining landholders, and it is disappointing to find out too late that a wind tower is about to be built very near our property.

I am very supportive of alternative energy, but not at the expense of the health and welfare of rural people. I especially worry about my grandchildren having to live too close to a tower and then attend school close to another tower.

I do not have any scientific qualifications, but brain surgeons are now advising not to use a mobile phone too often, as they are seeing an increase in tumors, but a few years ago they were reported as very safe.

I would be very supportive of strict regulations for the siting of wind towers.

Lorna Gilmore