

The Senate Community Affairs Committee

The Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms

Our small lifestyle property lies on the east side of Bald Hill in South West Gippsland, where the Bald Hills Wind Farm is to be established.

Although we support renewable energy, which of course includes wind, our concerns are in the unknown health aspects.

Before Australia goes blindly into the implementation of large wind farms in any windy location, more research should be conducted into measuring the effects on human health. Remembering that asbestos was considered safe enough to roof schools, an excellent insulating product, now we all know those consequences.

We believe the Victorian Government is restricting wind turbines to be not within 2 kilometres of homes. However, to our knowledge no-one knows that to be a safe distance. It may need to be in excess of 5 or 10 kilometres of where people are living. Or, perhaps having a wind turbine over the back fence is perfectly safe, at this stage, we just don't know!

We beg the Senate to consider our submission and implement further research into safe living within Wind Farm locations.

Rae and Bruce Jarrett