

8<sup>th</sup> February, 2011

Federal Senate Committee on Community Affairs,  
Social & Economical Impact of Rural Wind Farms.

Dear Sirs,

Please accept my submission on the impact of wind farms in my area of Western Victoria.

Over the past 20 years, there has been a considerable population growth in Victoria. This growth is expected to continue and the result of which more energy will be required. It is obvious in this day and age that our carbon footprint must be reduced and therefore I consider that renewable energy is the only way to go.

Wind farms in my area have been well accepted by the population for example the Challicum Hills wind farm even has sightseeing tours which is very much appreciated.

The wind farm operator in our area also runs a Communities Fund which allocates monies to assist "not for profit" organizations, for example the Ararat Men's Shed of which I am a member has received \$2500 over the past two years to replace outdated and unsafe switchboards and install windows in our shed.

In conclusion I wish to state that I highly recommend the continuation of Government support to renewable energy

Yours faithfully,

Charles Martin