

To whom it may concern,

Climate Change

Whenever I see an anti wind farm poster on the roadside I want to hang another underneath that says "I support new strains of disease, extreme weather events and sea level rise." The economic and social impacts of coal and oil on our economy are now economy breaking: Black Saturday, Vic Floods, Qld Floods, cyclone Yasi. Globally the number of recorded extreme weather events is skyrocketing.

In short, a world up to 6 degrees warmer will not support an economy at all. Wind must be a part of the energy mix of the future.

Oil and Coal Influence

Communities are whipped into a frenzy by the coal, oil and gas industries multi million dollar anti progress denial campaigns. In fact, I would wager that a good proportion of the submissions you read in relation to this enquiry are submitted by paid lobbyists, many from overseas. In the USA there are three oil/coal lobbyists for every senator. Consider the following:

- 2006 Royal Society open letter to Exxon: "Please cease the \$2.9m paid to 39 groups in 2005 to misrepresent the science of climate change."
- 2009 International Consortium of Investigative Journalists Report: In Australia 20 big polluters employ 28 climate lobbying firms (over 100 staff)
- 2010 Greenpeace Report: From 1997 to 2008, Koch Industries gave \$48.5 million to organisations to push their anti climate change agenda while presenting themselves as experts.

Local Economies

Regarding local economies, coal, oil and gas profits go offshore, pollution and waste stays put. Local wind farm projects such as Hepburn Wind retain profits and jobs locally whilst creating clean energy. The future of energy is local, networked, distributed, renewable and small. Local rural communities are the beneficiaries, at a time when local rural communities are in economic decline.

Regarding Wind Farms and Health

- The [National Health and Medical Research Council](#) (NHMRC) recently concluded that "there is currently no published scientific evidence to positively link wind turbines with adverse health effects."
- [Research](#) by Adelaide consultancy Sonus has recently shown that low frequency noise levels at the beach and in the CBD are typically higher than near wind farms.

Governments don't get it

Governments continue to move in the opposite direction to modern progress. The wind turbines and the desalination plant on the Victorian coast are a prime example. One is about the future: clean, local energy and another is about propping up the past: vast amounts of dirty energy to prop up the continued over use of water. It is clear which looks worse on the horizon!

Bye bye Steve

Really, the man needs to disappear. This enquiry is a huge waste of my time, your time and our money. Cant we have an enquiry into the electoral system? Someone who receives 150,000 fewer votes than others in the first round should not be allowed to slowly creep into office via dodgy preference deals. How is that democratic?

Cheers,

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Live eco•logical

