

Dear Sir

I feel that the Senate Committee should not propose provisions that would make power sourced from renewable energy any more difficult. Wind power is integral to the provision of energy for this country and needs to be located where it can be most beneficially used.

Unlike coal, wind power generation has no adverse health risks. People can continue to live close to wind farms and can even farm beneath their sails. This means that open spaces, which are becoming ever increasingly rare, can be preserved while still benefitting the population.

We often find that, after purchasing a property, the population increase is such that urban streets morph into major thoroughfares. Wind farms are far less noisy than motorways and most people are not aware of any noise increase with the construction of a wind farm in their area. If you compare the noise level of an average unit block in the suburbs, even without the associated traffic, it would be far greater than a wind farm. There is no statistical evidence that wind farms reduce property prices and property purchasers take many things into consideration when selecting a property.

In these times of ever increasing centralization it is encouraging to find an industry that is mostly confined to the rural towns. An industry that provides jobs and opportunities for people who enjoy living away from the city, to have worthwhile employment. It also provides land owners who own suitable land to have a guaranteed income from that land. This frees up the selection of crops they plant in the rest of their land.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that renewable sources of power are essential and wind turbines are an integral part of that scheme. Wind power is clean which will reduce the sickness associated with coal and make the whole atmosphere cleaner. Wind power is safe with no residual parts to be stored, unlike nuclear power. Wind power will make energy less expensive and, with further investment, will be even more economical.

As wind farms are so well supported by the community, I urge you to support wind farms and encourage further investment in their development.

Yours faithfully

Felicity Crombach