

Dear Sir/ Madam,

A Response to the Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms

Please accept my submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms.

- Renewables (and wind in particular) are an essential part of our response to climate change, and the Senate Committee should not propose provisions that would make the development of this industry more difficult or onerous
- Current research and scientific investigations have found that there are no adverse health effects for people living in close proximity to wind farms
- Research conducted on modern wind turbines has shown that the levels of low frequency noise and infrasound are within accepted thresholds
- Studies have found no statistical evidence that wind farms reduce property values
- The employment benefits are substantial and widely spread across regions, and provide considerable opportunities for individuals and communities where they are located, including the land owners who host turbines
- Wind farms are widely supported in the community

Wind farms are such an improvement on current practices and fulfill such a broad range of needs related to community wellbeing now and into the future, we cannot neglect this option. We must be responsible to our children and future generations by supporting care of the environment as well as spreading the wealth throughout the community.

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