

Submission:

To the Senate inquiry into the social and economic impact of rural wind farms,

I wish to write in support of rural wind farms.

Not only are rural wind farms an essential element of our species' response to human caused climate change, but they will be vital in providing rural communities with at least some future energy supply should there be the predicted energy supply crisis associated with the depletion of the earth's oil resources.

It would be an awful negligence not to ensure there are abundant renewable energy resources for our children's future and well-being. That said, any attempts to create hindrances to the development of rural wind farms will severely reduce not only our capacity to supply a vital energy resource, but also our capacity to reduce our carbon emissions, which we so desperately need to do to prevent runaway climate chaos.

I also wish to add my support to what Hepburn Wind has claimed about wind farms, especially that :

- Current research by respected institutions supports claims that wind farms pose no health risks for people living in close proximity. Research conducted on modern wind turbines has shown that the levels of low frequency sound are well within accepted thresholds and are comparable to naturally occurring phenomena.
- Studies have found no statistical evidence that wind farms negatively affect property values.
- The wind industry employs more people per unit of energy than either coal or gas generation and the resulting jobs are widely spread across many regions.
- Land owners benefit from a new source of income, without any measurable impact on farming operations.
- Communities benefit from job creation, local investment and the community funds that are commonly implemented by project proponents.

Kind regards,

Charles Cranfield  
PhD (Biophysics)