

P.O. Box 722 Merredin W.A. 6415 Phone 08 9041 5574 Fax 08 9041 5422

Mobile 0448 179255

9<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Department of the Senate PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Australia

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Merredin Rural Supplies is a solely committed Ag chem./merchandise business that has been operating for 8 years. As co-owners of Merredin Rural Supplies, Merredin WA, we have opened accounts with Vestas, Catcon and numerous other contractors involved with the construction of Collgar Wind Farm.

As we have just experienced our driest season ever the extra business that has been generated from this project has allowed us not only to survive but has created an opportunity for us to increase our stock holding as well as enabled us to employ another person full time. This unfortunately goes against the trend in most WA small towns and apart from prudent management the Collgar Wind Farm project has the sole responsibility for this occurring.

Regards

David Keamy and Michael Carlson

Merredin Rural Supplies

Western Australia