

Submission to the Senate Enquiry into the Social and Economic
Impacts of Wind Farms

I write to indicate my very strong support of wind farms as a means of energy generation in this country.

I believe that the change in our climate evidenced in the current wild weather events has, at its root, the effects of world industrialisation, and in particular the large scale emission of pollutants into the atmosphere. One major source of this is, of course, power generation from fossil fuel sources. A shift to renewable sources such as wind power is a major step towards reducing this pollution.

It is clear that, unless we make major steps in this direction the social and economic impacts from the rising pollution levels (mainly Carbon Dioxide) will be devastating to this country and the whole world. In support of this, I would point to the IPCC reports with which, I am sure, the committee is well acquainted.

When one considers the range of possible non-polluting energy sources, wind power generation from wind farms is clearly one of the most benign that is capable of generating significant amounts of power. It is not a complete solution, but must form part of a mix, which will include energy conservation as well as other sources.

I have made a personal commitment to the shift toward non-polluting energy through inter-alia a contribution to the capital required to develop a wind power station near Hepburn Springs - the first community based wind power station in this country.

Peter Goddard