

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

Dear Sir/ Madam,

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

In response to the Senate Inquiry into the Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms, I would like to make a very small personal submission.

I have encountered wind farms at Toora, Gippsland, Victoria and near Portland, Victoria where my family and I frequently holiday. When we have stayed at the Toora Tourist Park at the base of the Toora Wind Farm, I have found the sound levels to be negligible. Similarly with the Western Victorian wind farm, even when we stood at their base.

I personally feel a great sense of “uplift” when I watch their graceful blades turning serenely in the wind, as I feel that Australia is finally taking some action to address the unfolding and very real threat of climate change/disruption. Our family has been a purchaser of 100% Greenpower (wind energy) and through this have enjoyed a feeling of “owning” the wind farm, particularly as an installation of solar panels or other renewable energy sources has not been in our family’s financial reach.

Whilst on a holiday to NE Tasmania, we were also fortunate to attend a tour of the wind farm facility near Woolnorth, further establishing a sense of connection with our electricity source. It may sound slightly sentimental but I feel quite attached to these coastal beauties! Please keep them coming.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Fulton