

To whom it may concern

My name is Darren Stephens and i have been working with the wind farms since 2006

My first job in the wind industry was in blade manufacturing our company was based in Warrnambool in regional victoria manufacturing internal components for the blades witch were being manufactured in Portland vic. The benifits to the surrounding towns and local businesses were significant, After they closed the factory not only did a lot of people lose their jobs but also the local communities lost a lot of cash flow I now work as a travel tech going to different wind farms to do repairs and my experience is that the smaller communities near wind farms get a good boost from the wind farm employees and the local businesses also benefit from the ongoing work

In closing i would just like to say that i belive that renewable energy is the way of the future Wind energy is the most viable of these emerging technologies it is ready now and it has proven its worth in many countries already. I hope that we as australians dont get left behind in these technologies but instead take a leading role as in my opinion this is a chance for us to lead by example instead of waiting for other countries to take the lead

Thank you for your time

Darren Stephens