



Friends of Pallister's Reserve Inc.

4th February 2011

Department of the Senate
Community Affairs Committee
P O Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Inquiry into the Social and economic impact of rural wind farms

On behalf of the members of Pallister's Reserve I would like to make the following comments in support of wind farms in our area:

- our group supports the presence of wind farms in our area as an alternative energy source than coal-fired electricity;
- wind farms exist within 10kms from our reserve and we have not experienced any problems with bird or animal life. We do acknowledge that on occasions birds do fly into the large blades, but the incidence of this would be much less than motor vehicle and power line accidents;
- the turbines are less intrusive than the huge power lines that cross the state to power Alcoa in Portland;
- from the roadway (about 0.5kms from the turbines) there is no audible noise;
- the wind farm industry contributes significantly to our local economies particularly during the construction stage but also throughout the life of the project.

Pallister's Reserve is 254 hectares of wetlands located at 457 Masons Road, Orford, Victoria. We have 60 members from all walks of life. Because of our conservation tendencies we would all support the push for more clean green energy.

Yours faithfully,

Margaret Whitehead
Secretary