

I write in support of rural wind farms.

It is my considered opinion that Australia must develop alternative electricity generating sources to reduce the dependence on greenhouse gas producing coal fired power stations.

Wind energy is a proven source of renewable energy.

Research indicates that wind farms pose no risks for nearby residents. Low level frequency sound is within acceptable levels. Sonus of Adelaide has shown that low level frequency sound levels at the beach and in the CBD exceed those near wind farms.

Local communities benefit from job creation and, in the case of locally supported schemes such as the Hepburnwind Project, in cheaper and cleaner electricity for years to come. This project is expected to provide more than \$1 000 000 to the local community over the next 25 years.

Local farmers receive rentals for the installation of turbines on their land. This additional income comes with no negative effect on their normal farm activities.

With more than 100 000 turbines installed throughout the world wind farms are recognised as an essential component of our future energy requirements.

Australian states have well developed wind farm planning controls which are amongst the most onerous in the world. No changes should be made to these controls that are not applied equitably to other generating industries. Any such changes should be based on strong evidence from controlled studies.

My hope is that this Committee will find that the Australian Windfarm industry deserves as much government support as possible and that the noisy minority views are disregarded.

David Munro