

To Whom it may concern,

I was recently made aware of your inquiry into the impact of wind farms on rural communities, and I would hope that you would refer to empirical data that demonstrate that there are NOT any adverse health effects for people living in close proximity to wind farms; that the noise emissions are well within accepted limits; and that there has been no detectable decrease in property value.

Yet, most importantly, I would like to draw attention to the fact that wind farms need to be considered in contrast with the alternatives, namely the (proven) adverse health affects of mining and burning coal and coal seam gas, that also extend through entire watersheds; the noise of coal mines and coal-fired power stations; and, in addition to a loss of propoerty value, the loss of valuable agricultural land to coal mines and land polluted by coal seam gas extraction. In light of the major impacts of conventional power generation, it would be wonderful if both state and federal governments would commit to an integrated, sustainable energy sector, which will include the use of wind generated power.

Kind regards,  
Bethany Hoye