

7<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Community Affairs Reference Committee

To Whom it may concern,

We write in support of wind farms and the renewable energy that they produce. We believe that as our world changes we need to look at new ways of producing energy that are not detrimental to the environment and won't run out i.e. coal. As Farmers we produce the commodity of food and we see wind as another commodity that we would like to participate in providing. We want to be a part of contributing to a sustainable future.

Farmers throughout the country have and will continue to experience the extremes of weather that play havoc with their incomes. Wind farms provide an opportunity for an alternate more stable source of income for Farmers which has a flow on effect to the wider community and surrounding Businesses. At present we employ two full time staff and should the Wind Turbines be situated on our property they would provide us with a reliable income stream that could assist in growing the business and the possibility of providing further employment opportunities. A constant income from the Wind farms would also definitely assist with Succession planning for the Farm Business; it would provide an income for the retiring generation, leaving the Farm business intact and viable for the next and future generations.

In our area a key argument against the Wind farms is the Brolga population. The Wind Energy Company interested in building a wind farm in our area has indicated that they would introduce a program to control the Fox's, a major hazard to Brolga's in the breeding season. A Fox eradication program would benefit not only the Brolga's but all native wildlife and also the surrounding Farms at Lambing time as foxes are a major contributor to wildlife and lamb mortality. We would hope that the Brolga is not used as an excuse by people wishing to stop progress.

We support the use of wind energy and wind farms for both the financial and environmental benefits that they would provide for us personally and for our community and country as a whole.

Yours Sincerely

Robert & Jill Warner