

We have lived in this home for 33 years, enjoying the quiet rural bush location of Evansford. It had quiet roads and was handy, being half way between Ballarat and Maryborough. I built my own home and also a home here for my sister. It was peaceful, a top little place, and now we have to sit in our lounge-room and look at great fans, whirling about. No respite in our kitchen, lounge-room and BBQ area.

Since the installation of these wind turbines, about 1 and a half kilometres from our lounge-room, dining room and kitchen windows, they have been a source of distraction - visual pollution and general discomfort to all parties in this household. When one looks out of the windows concerned, one is confronted with an immediate sight of whirling blades which occupies a large area of our window space. At night there is a continuous array of red flashing lights, which is most uncomfortable for the household.

We used to look out and see rolling hills in a quiet landscape but now, especially in the night sky there is a multitude of great big Xmas trees, flashing. During the day, what was once a serene still horizon is full of these huge structures and movement. Most disquieting. We now have to live in a factory zone.

This visual pollution affects our sense of peace and well being. It's worse than living in the main street of Ballarat. They draw your eyes and draw your attention; they are the first thing you see whichever way you look. You cannot ignore them. It has destroyed the peace of this place and destroyed our sense of peace and security.

We have had this house on the market for 15 months. There have been a lot of hits on the website, but only two people have come out to look. It feels like a rope around my neck with having to pay bills and rates. You're just left with a worthless product. And there is no compensation. It worries me, mentally upsets me. All our neighbours will have the same problem. People we have talked to in town say no-one wants to live in a rural place with these windmills. If they want to live in the country they want a peaceful atmosphere.

They affect your well-being. I'm worried that I will have a nervous breakdown if I keep worrying. I was never asked if I wanted them. I had no vote, they were here, and that was it. This is our life savings and now it's virtually useless. There seems to be nowhere to turn for help in this matter.

Here we are supposedly saving the planet with these huge monstrosities and yet we still sell our coal to India and China. We consume so many products and then just throw it all away, and then consume more. It just doesn't make sense to me.

Carol and Douglas Mac Donald Hadow