

Submission:

“I write in support of wind energy and the economic benefits it brings to rural Victoria.

The wind energy industry provides employment and growth to rural areas which have suffered with little or no growth for many years. I have seen first hand, many rural towns and communities including their schools and sporting clubs virtually disappear over many years. Production of wind towers in Portland has created hundreds of jobs in manufacturing, transport and civil industries, not only in the Portland region, but also in other regions of Victoria. The flow on effect through to retail, housing, schools and sporting groups has benefitted many small communities.

Many people have concerns with global warming. Wind Towers supported by solar energy and on-demand natural gas power stations provide a reliable alternative to coal generated power.

Stopping new wind farms will place a greater need on coal powered energy and most likely in the longer term, nuclear power. Solar power is a great alternative, but just as the wind doesn't blow all the time, the sun doesn't shine all the time. These renewable energy sources can work effectively together to reduce the reliance on coal powered energy”