

To Senators

We live at Allendale East, SE South Australia where Acciona are to build a wind farm. We feel strongly that Council has not heeded the concerns of residents of the area around the large industrial site so close to homes and especially the local school. Our main concern is around the 'extensive consultation process', the main defence of the company and council.

Council's role we believe should have been to inform and act as a researcher for the community on what are the existing problems of similar projects elsewhere.

As community members have little knowledge and received minimal information of this proposed industry, and about the potential problems which may arise from a project of this type. There is not "overwhelming community support" for the project as they claim, because over 150 members of our small community so far have documented, indicating that they oppose the project. They have signed a petition and up to this stage approximately 60 locals have signed Statutory Declarations stating that they do not want the turbine plant in the Allendale East area and they should be located away from residential areas and the local school due to health risks, loss of amenity and property devaluation.

Our group has also conducted a survey personally calling to homes of people unbiasedly asking about knowledge of correspondence received and for or against the project.

From this we can confirm that a majority of these people received nothing and if any correspondence was received it was 1-2 documents on average over 5 years. Also a majority of people did not wish the turbines in their area. We request the Council to defend their long term rate payers and residents and heed our concern as so many wish this project not to proceed. This leaves the question on how the 'extensive consultation' appeared and how effective the procedure was to inform locals.

Similar projects around Australia often have many objections, especially around residential areas and environmentally significant locations. A question is 'Why has only one resident complained at our project, only after a sound recording device was placed in his front yard to determine noise pollution levels. That was his consultation! Through research that is ongoing there are many adverse effects associated with wind factories and a lot of opposition and changes to laws all around the world. More research is needed as there is an overwhelming desire to place many more sites throughout our landscape. Why are we failing to implement a moratorium in South Australia in ceasing to develop further wind turbine contracts until comprehensive health studies have been completed? These sites will be a burden for many years to come and will negatively effect many communities, if not placed in appropriate areas. We question, what are "the benefits to the community" compared to the long term negatives? The benefits to the landholders and company is obvious, but as a group we have nothing to gain from informing everyone to protect our health and landscape for future generations.

A majority of the host landholders that will profit from this wind development don't live in the area that is affected, but expect others to live with the problems associated with wind factories which are reported all around the world, while they profit. That is why other countries have more stringent planning laws around homes & communities, learning from past mistakes that created community outrage.

All that we ask, is for these developments to be stopped until further research is done, especially on the health aspects. With their carbon footprint only slightly less than gas turbines and yet double the cost of production and an average efficiency of only

16.9% in Australia surely they are not a viable or reliable source of energy. Current base load generation will still be needed and ultimately expanded this will lead to increase cost of production with little reward of carbon output benefiting large companies with carbon credit and subsidies from tax payers. Wind is a bad option for renewables for these reasons and government subsidies etc should be put into alternate technology eg solar, creating local industries, placement on current structures, rewarding homeowners and businesses to lessen the impact of increases in energy bills. State planning laws should be all brought in to alignment so international companies cannot create deals with the governments of the day, placing pressures on small rural communities everywhere to be forced to fight unfair battles alone. More research needs to be completed and nationally implemented.

Yours sincerely

John & Rhonda Spehr