

My name is Peter Nash, together with my wife Barbara we purchased a property at Evansford in 1980. We decided to live here permanently and in the year 2000 we made the move from the fast developing Eastern corridor of Melbourne in the Berwick area.

Changing lifestyle took a little time to get used to, but I soon came to love my surrounds, the peace and quiet and the sense of community. I began to enjoy everything about my beautiful town.

Then almost overnight I realized that a Wind Farm was planned to be built near me. Initially I thought "Oh well, that's progress" even though I didn't like the look of wind turbines. Then they were turned on. All of a sudden I started suffering anxiety attacks, irritability, sleeplessness and headaches, I couldn't understand these sudden changes. After confiding with neighbours and friends I found that they also were suffering the same problems. With a little research I have found that the problems I now suffer are the same all over the world for people who live near Wind Farms.

Since becoming aware of the link between wind farms and my health problems, I have paid particular attention to when my symptoms are at their worst. It is obvious to me that when the wind is coming from the South I also suffer with a 'pulsing' sensation throughout my body. When I leave the property this abates quite quickly. When the wind is blowing in other directions I can hear a noise that sounds like a train coming down the driveway, this causes me to be irritable and also makes me feel anxious.

I lived opposite a suburban railway line for 27 years and it never affected me the way that the wind turbines do.

On Tuesday 1st December, 2009 I wanted to stage a peaceful protest against wind farms at the Waubra Windfarm Viewing Area. I parked my car with signs on a trailer with the appropriate protest signs. Within minutes of my arrival I was verbally abused by a passing ACCIONA employee. Moments later a local resident confronted me and once again, was verbally abused before being pushed and shoved into the protest signs on the trailer causing cuts to my forearm.

During this altercation no less than 5 ACCIONA employees arrived on the scene in company vehicles. Two of these workers approached me in an aggressive manner. I felt extremely intimidated, to the extent that I felt even more concerned for my safety.

I find this action by ACCIONA employees and the local resident, DEPLORABLE. ACCIONA Energy operates the Waubra Wind Farm and is proposing to build a wind farm near my home at Evansford and I am concerned at this kind of behaviour from uniformed ACCIONA employees and am surprised that such

behaviour is taking place during ACCIONA working hours on public property. It also worries me that ACCIONA Energy will bring this kind of behaviour to our peaceful little town.

When I arrived home I received a phone call from Glen Wright, Facility Manager at Acciona Energy, Waubra, inviting me to a meeting to discuss the assault incident at Acciona's Viewing Area. He said that the incident had been reported to the Beaufort Police who would be investigating it. He denied that 5 Acciona employees were present and he downplayed the assault. This preconceived version of events made me feel apprehensive about attending any meeting with Acciona employees.

I felt that I also should report the incident to the police. I decided to go to Ballarat CID because I felt Mr Wright who was not present at the Viewing Area, could not have reported the incident correctly to the Beaufort police. I found out later from the Beaufort Police that Acciona had not reported the incident as claimed.

I cannot understand how anybody can disrupt another persons lifestyle and quality of life the way that Acciona has done and continues to do, with what appears to be absolutely no responsibility accepted on their behalf. I am by no means the worst affected as I live about 3½ kilometres away from the nearest towers. Others such as Noel Dean and his family have become refugees in their own country.

IS THIS THE AUSTRALIA THAT MY FATHER FOUGHT FOR IN WORLD WAR 2.

My hope is that with deep and due consideration this inquiry will find an outcome that is both fair and equitable for all Australians affected by this problem.