

Dear community affairs,

I have been requested by Pacific Hydro to provide personal feedback of my experience with windfarm projects.

While I 100% support green energy; my experience with the project in my area is not so positive. Firstly I oppose the position of the wind farms in the Portland Victoria area. Windfarms have been inconsiderately placed in our most beautiful areas. Cape Bridgewater; while this area provides adequate wind power for the farms, installing them beside our historic petrified forest and in view of our most valuable asset Bridgewater beach was very distasteful. I recall that at the time of installation many residents opposed the earmarked sites; however big business succeeded once again. Portland is a windy area and there were plenty of discrete options for them to be installed without spoiling our pristine and valued and tourist areas.

Secondly, I for one have not seen any reduction in energy bills since installation of Portlands many windfarms. I'm not sure where this energy is going but shouldn't the community which lives near the windfarms benefit from reduced energy charges?? The only residents that seem to benefit are the property owners from payment.

Finally, with more windfarms being installed, it seems to be pushing up the electricity costs. Even with the installation of Solar panels, the average household can't get away from increased costs.

This highlights that the government should never have sold off any of our essential services assets.