

***Please include this email content as a submission to the Inquiry regarding the 'Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms':--***

I became aware of **HEPBURN WIND** more than 12 months ago. Before and during this time it became apparent to me that Victoria, Australia - the World – had to draw a line in the sand and make a positive decision to actively involve themselves in developing and using cleaner sources of Power (ie Electricity) production. From all of my reading and broad discussion, there is no valid or sound argument against producing and using wind power electricity. In fact, this source of natural energy is available almost anywhere at minimal cost to humans; nor does it destroy the earth below or above the land surface. Of note, however, it is important that 'wind-power sites' be placed in locations that do not impact adversely on humans.

An example of this type of location is HALLETT, S.A. Whilst travelling through this rural countryside earlier this year, I counted in excess of 60 WindPower poles. NOT ONE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OR FARM SITE WAS VISIBLE IN THIS VAST LAND AREA.

I met a number of rural residents whilst in this general area and not one person was critical of WindPower. In fact, the overall comments were – we have electricity all the time, no fear of 'down-time', no health issues AND, there are plenty of rural locations in S.A. and other States where wind and the local, natural environment can accommodate this clean power-production facility.

As a former Local Government Councillor, I believe the Statutory and Strategic Planning requirements can and will continue to ensure that proper safeguards are developed and implemented.

Victoria has waited far too long to reduce the negative impact of the Yallourn Power Station.

We lead the world in many areas – WindPower is our opportunity to stand tall, draw a line in the sand to both install and promote WindPower.

***Bernie MILLANE***  
***Member and Shareholder of HEPBURN WIND***