

The Senate Community Affairs Committee Enquiry into the social and economic impact of rural wind farms – Submission.

We are finding it extremely hard to understand how a Government can continue to approve Wind Farm developments when there is inadequate economic and environmental justification for doing so.

Does the Government actually understand the impact of the Wind Farms they continue to fund and support? There is mounting evidence which clearly shows:

1. the inefficiency and unreliability of wind power;
2. the negative impact these developments are having on the local communities;
3. the health implications for the communities;
4. the inequity of payments to individual landholders rather than payments made more widely to the community;
5. the reduction in value of land adjacent to Wind Farms;
6. the consumer funded subsidy of wind farm operators' business (if these developments had to be economically sustainable there would be no Wind Farms world-wide)
7. the long term impacts to the landscape and communities (who will be responsible for the turbines when the subsidies finish and we are left with a landscape of defunct Wind Farms???)

We urge the Government to stop all proposed Wind Farm developments until independent studies have been conducted on the economic viability of these developments and the implications these developments are having on people's lives, their health and the economic and social damage being forced upon the surrounding communities.

Please be responsible and to look at all facts.

These developments must be stopped.

Signed

Michael, Kate, Eve & George de Kleuver