

To Senate Review Committee
Re. Windfarm Locations
Dear Senators

We the Waterloo & District Concerned Citizens Group, strongly recommend an immediate review of the locations of future windfarms.

We are not against renewable energy developments, but the disaster that has occurred here at Waterloo and elsewhere must not be allowed to continue.

A review needs to be undertaken to prevent the serious social, environmental, noise levels, proximity to, and health issues that have occurred.

Briefly: Socially; has split the community to the extent that residents are not talking to one another

Environmentally; destruction of unique hills, bird and animal habitats

Proximity; built too close to residences

Noise; unacceptable noise levels, especially at night

Health; serious sleep disorders and headaches by constant pounding of turbines

Instead of guidelines which are being constantly violated, strict rules must be introduced to prevent the above mentioned very serious problems from continuing to occur. We strongly recommend that the minimum distance of turbines to residences be at least 5 kms.

Please find enclosed our recommendations.

Your truly, John Faint
Co-Chair W.D.C.C.G.

The Waterloo & District Concerned Citizens Group and residents of the Mid North in South Australia strongly recommend debate and major changes to the "locations" of any future wind farms. So that the social and environmental disasters and other related issues that have split the community both here and elsewhere never occur again.

We suggest that the focus of renewable energy be instead directed towards better and efficient sources, such as solar, thermal, sea power or gas etc.

In relation to wind farms we strongly recommend:

1. No turbine within 5km of nearest residence.
2. No wind farms on the top of ridge lines (Visual impact).
3. No turbines within 1km of any bird or raptor nest (ie: 1km from nearest ~~tree~~ permanent tree).
4. Totally independent studies and research pre development application.
5. More decision power to local council, plus in depth consultation with the local Environmental Protection Agency and Dept. of Environment & Heritage and wider community.
6. Extensive public consultation (Surveys, public meetings).
7. No wind farms in prominent tourist areas.
8. No wind farms in moderate to highly populated bird, native animal, native treed or rocky outcrop areas.
9. An equal amount of money paid into a community fund , as paid to the contracted landholders.
10. A trust fund to be established at time of development approval, and be paid into on an annual basis for the purpose of site remediation at termination of wind farm.
11. To seriously look into the cost and efficiency of this renewable source.