

8th February 2011

**Department of the Senate
Community Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600**

Wind Farm Senate Inquiry Submission

I have worked at Keppel Prince Engineering in Portland for six years and am involved in manufacturing wind tower components.

I am a strong supporter of wind farms in our area because I have seen first hand the benefits the wind industry brings. Many members of my family are employed by the industry. My father drives cranes, my brother was employed during construction and I myself completed my apprenticeship at Keppel Prince, an opportunity I may not have had if the wind industry was not here.

I believe that we need more renewable energy and it is important to move away from our reliance on coal fired power to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change.

From discussions with family and friends I would say that the majority of our community support wind farms. I think it's great that Portland is leading change by embracing renewable energy.

Even if you don't always agree with where the wind towers are sited I know I'd much rather look at a wind tower than a nuclear power station.

Sincerely,

Matthew Kohlman