

To The Impact Of Living With Wind Farms - Senate Inquiry.

Wind farms may have a place somewhere like out at sea or wide open spaces where there is less impact on Humans and the Environment.

Without an independent Inquiry / study into long term Health, Community and Environmental impacts, we have no idea what long term affects from wind turbines are going to do.

Placing wind turbines close to Homes, Schools, Pre Schools, Sporting Grounds and local Communities I know It Is not a good idea, When you here children say 'Dads grumpy because he didn't get much sleep because the wind turbine make too much noise' or children having trouble sleeping, the flashing lights, ringing in the ears, ear ache, head aches, blood pressure problems and lots of other health problems I have heard about and experience, since the turbines have been turning.

I live and work in the local area of Waubra, so I have experience living and working around turbines first hand. One of my biggest concerns is what it is doing to people's health.

If people can't get a peaceful sleep they will then have problems learning, listening and working. It is well documented that without good peaceful sound sleep work perforates drops this can become a safety issue e.g.: driving, working with machines and learning. When I go away for a few days and stay I will often get a lot better sleep than when I'm at home. Why is this so? This didn't happen before the turbines were working.

Talk of more turbines being built around other communities send shivers down my spine I Wouldn't want to see other communities destroyed.

Some Other Issues I Have:

1. How environmentally friendly are wind turbines? Is It true turbines have to tap into the power to start up?  
If they do, they are still using coal powered energy to do this.  
The turbines are often turn off and are back on in the same day so how much power is being used to do this?  
To start and restart each turbine every time this happens?
2. Is the return of having or building wind turbines worth the carbon off set?  
What is the cost of each turbine to build?  
Once the turbine is running what is the cost to maintain each turbine?  
What is the cost to maintain and service the roads and vehicles to each turbine?

3. What happens if a / or more than one turbine catches on fire?  
The turbines are not always turned off on fire ban day, as we were told they would be.
4. The property values within the areas where wind turbines have been built have in some cases decreased and in some cases people are: quote 'unable to sell their homes because of the turbines'
5. Within the community itself some people are being told it's their fault for saying bad things about the turbines that the value of land has gone down that It's their fault they can't sell their house that speaking up about the problems, they are having with the wind turbines is why the shire isn't doing improvements to their area it has really divided the community.  
I have lived and worked in the area for over twenty years and deeply saddened by this.  
  
I have not only worked in the area but have been a part of the community, coaching local sports teams, on local Sports, School, Pre School, and other Community Communities.  
At times I no longer feel a part of this community since I have spoken up about my thoughts on the wind turbines and talked of my own health problems.  
This is one of the many reasons I know building more turbines close to communities is not a good idea.  
I would hate to see what has happened to my / this community anywhere else.

I would like to thank-you very much for taking the time to read my letter.

Thank-You.