

From:
To: [Committee, EC \(SEN\)](#)
Subject: Submission to the Inquiry into Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Excessive Noise from Wind Farms) Bill 2012
Date: Thursday, 1 November 2012 11:33:44 PM

Dear Senator,

We wish to express our support for the proposed amendments to the Renewable Energy act in the form of the Excessive Noise from Wind farms Bill 2012. We believe these amendments are necessary to change the way that wind farms have been operating and the impacts they are having on rural communities in particular by producing non compliant excessive noise.

Our community are currently dealing with a wind farm proposal at Cooranga North in Queensland. 52 community members have formed a group called the Cooranga North Concerned Citizens Group to oppose the Proposed wind farm. The Proponent has proposed 3 MW turbines 1.4 km from residences. We have engaged an acoustic consultant from Melbourne and he has informed us the the noise from the turbines will exceed the criteria contained in the Qld Noise Policy. We are aware that the proponents have had non compliant wind farms in Victoria and South Australia and we have spoken to some of the community members affected by the excessive noise from those wind farms. They have told us of the sleep disruption they are suffering and the other health effects they suffer. We have spoken to the family who have left their home at the Oakland Hill Wind Farm because of the excessive noise and associated health affects that included headaches and tinnitus.

We believe that companies should not be entitled to any form of Government subsidy from their wind farm developments unless they can prove their wind farm development is in compliance with noise conditions that apply to that wind farm. We believe the amendments are necessary to force wind farm companies to be more accountable for the way they plan and operate their wind farms. The community should be able to view the noise monitoring data as a way of ensuring the wind farm is operating in full compliance.

We fully support the proposed amendments and sincerely believe these changes will lead to better planned and operated wind farms and a substantial lessening of the suffering by community members unfortunate enough to live near wind turbines that are producing excessive noise. We also believe that the increased accountability will cause the proponent to amend the plan of the wind farm proposed for our community if the proposed amendments are made. This would be a great outcome for our community.

Our Community and many other communities need the amendments in this Bill to be adopted.

Yours Sincerely

Bryan Lyons

Spokesperson for the Cooranga North Concerned Citizens Group