

## Wind farms

Windfarms are dividing local communities, please consider their location carefully. I have just purchased 200 acres near Gisborne for my family to move into, but this dream now will not eventuate. I am opposed to wind farms for the following reasons.

1. I have 2 young children 3 and 5 years of age and nothing in the world is more important to me than their health. There have been many people all over the world suffering health concerns and no proper studies have been done. It took 30 years for people to find out that smoking was harmful. My mother died 18 months ago with mesothelioma (the cancer caused by asbestos) which was thought to be safe. I cannot take any risks with the health of my family.
2. My husband and I have worked hard all our lives to buy this block of land that will now be worth approx 50% of its original value that is if it can be sold at all. The worst part is that we still have to pay back the mortgage and are unable to live there.
3. The amenity of the area will be destroyed forever. Huge holes will be dug in the ground and filled with 300 tonnes of concrete each, new roads will be built, overhead power lines will be put in. This will remove native grasses and trees and destroy the look of the area.
4. The effects on wild life are also significant. There are a mating pair of Wedge Tailed Eagles and a baby that live on the site as well as many other bird species and lots of kangaroos.
5. There is also an increased risk of fire. The site is near Mt Macedon and there is a large pine forest between the proposed turbines and Mt Macedon. The area is also in the flight path for fire fighting helicopters which would need to be diverted due to risk of injury from the blades.
6. There is also no current proper monitoring of noise from the turbines. If the air flow is more turbulent then there is no body available outside of business hours to call and nothing can be done for residents that are awake all night due to noise.
7. Several of these developments are located too close to populated areas. The one proposed near us has Gisborne township and the northern areas of Sunbury within a 5km radius. This means that thousands of residents and businesses will be affected. In the main street of Gisborne people would hear the noise and suffer the health effects. This little town is a quiet country town that depends on tourists.

The landholder with the turbines on her property is the only person to benefit from this and thousands of others will suffer health problems and financial loss. Please do not allow these turbines to be built in urban areas it is dividing communities and could be the next major health epidemic.

Regards,  
Lisa Alexander