

The Social And Economic Impact of Windfarms Submission

I live in Melbourne and I have invested some money in the Hepburn Wind Farm because I think that it is a good idea to have alternative sources of energy other than Victorian brown coal (I also have 16 solar panels on my roof)

Health Impacts and Noise

I can understand people's concerns regarding noise and vibration coming from wind farms so I believe that it is important that developments are forced to take those concerns seriously.

As wind farms are quite common in Europe it should be possible to obtain good quality information about the health affects. When I go to London if I drive along the A13 in Dagenham there is a massive turbine at the old Ford Dagenham site which isn't far from a great many homes. You can read about them and see pictures here http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dagenham_wind_turbines . I've visited Stockholm and seen a big wind turbine in a suburb there.

Undoubtedly the rules should be different for different numbers of turbines.

Visual Impact of Wind farms

I actually like them. I have a framed photo of a wind farm hanging in my hallway. The sight of turbines turning slowly against the sky is in my opinion quite uplifting.

The knowledge that the energy is NOT being generated by Brown Coal just makes them even more beautiful.

I would have no problem with having a wind turbine at the end of my road.

Economic impact of wind farms on property values

For every person who hates them there is going to be someone who loves them. I'd say that the overall impact taken over time will be neutral. Research should certainly be done to find out whether there is negative impact overseas but I would be very surprised if this was the case.

Economic impact of wind farms on local communities

This can only be positive. With farmers being forced to diversify to survive the ability to have a wind farm on a property can only be beneficial. Construction of wind farms can offer temporary jobs. Maintenance of wind farms can also offer jobs.