

Submission RE: Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Excessive Noise from Wind Farms) Bill 2012. I write in support of this Bill.

Current regulations and standards do not prevent adverse health impacts from wind turbine operations. Wind farm operators need to be made accountable for their workplaces as do the ordinary person. Noise pollution data may it be audible, inaudible or vibrations needs to be made available to the public so that ordinary people are not forced to pay out huge costs to seek data results in courts. The family farm where my son lives borders the Macarthur wind farm. The nearest turbine is 70 meters from the boundary fence. If this particular turbine were to fall over it would land on our property. When visiting today I was alarmed to already be hearing a decisive, continuous “hum” in the air and there was very little wind. There are only 45 turbines operating at the moment. I am very concerned as to what will happen by the end of January 2013 when they will be fully operational at 140 turbines. I need to know that the workplace of my husband and son will be safe and protected from excessive noise and that no adverse health effects will impact on my son, my daughter-in-law, my two young grandchildren and my unborn grandchild. I need to know that they will be able to sleep in the home where their grandparents lived. We are farmers and cannot afford to be forced to leave our home. I implore you to accept these amendments to allow a regulator to be responsible to suspend wind farms that are not operating within the law and that there is transparency when it comes to detecting and dealing promptly with issues of excessive noise.

Rosemary Rees,