

To the Senate Enquiry
The Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms

When working at a property on Stud Farm Rd in Waubra, I suffered really bad headaches, nausea, severe heart palpitations, which were so excessive that it frightened me. My heart would start racing and I have never experienced anything like it. Sometimes the funny feelings in my chest feel like a butterfly vibrating. Sometimes after working all day under these conditions I fainted when I arrived home.

Initially I was putting up with the sick feeling for quite a while, and then realised it was only happening to me when I worked near turbines.

After one of these episodes I was feeling so horrible and sick with nausea, I thought I must have had hepatitis. I had no energy at all and I felt like I had been electrocuted. At this time I saw my Dr in Avoca who sent me to the hospital in Maryborough for blood tests, I was given Stemetil for the constant nausea.

When I went back to see the Dr for my results I was not sick with hepatitis, but my body was suffering from stress.

I also developed Tinnitus at Waubra. It was a Durrrrrrrrrrrr noise which comes on suddenly when I started work and then disappeared when I went home. It does not happen anywhere else I work and has not happened since I stopped work at Waubra.

The last day at work frightened me so much with these feelings I have never been back to work there. As I have not had a headache since I stopped working in Waubra, I will never return to work under the turbines again. This has now taken away part of my income.

Future development at Waubra North puts me in severe risk of further illness and then I will not even be able to work in Evansford as the turbines affect my health terribly. Physically I can't cope with headaches every time I am working near the turbines.

My life has been using my natural skills of working the land, nurturing the environment, growing food, and keeping animals and if I can't work in this environment how do I use my skills and earn my living.

Wind turbines have affected my present and future income.

I can't believe the previous State Government and Pyrenees Shire Council has gone ahead with approving more wind turbine proposals, when they know the health problems.

Having looked at the proposed Turbine development on Ben Moore I believe the developers lie in their coloured brochures.

The brochures say there is NO visual impact on the Pyrenees ranges, these are absolute lies. How can they honestly say that 70 turbines do not have a visual impact.

Ben Moore is within 5 kilometres of my home, and I know this area well. Photographs have been taken from the lowest point, the very spot that flooded last week in the Victorian flood crisis. The photos they take and display are deceptive it looks like the turbines will just be on top of a scrappy hill. Not so. They show nothing of the beauty of the environment, or the true landscape.

The Lexton land care group have been working for 30 years to create a haven and feeding ground for the Black Cockatoos. The reserve is on Ben Moore and the plantings were put

there specifically to attract the cockatoos. The turbines will now be in the flight path of the birds and their lives endangered. These things are never considered in panel reports.

I live 32 kilometres from the Waubra turbines and from my home I can see 70 towers. I see shadow flicker all day, and at night I see nothing but flashing red lights, on off, on off, on off. The turbines look like sticks of artificial flowers that flicker all day, it has disrupted my lifestyle and my work environment. I have had turbines shoved in my face. I have to look at them on my way to work, I look at them at work. I have to look at flashing red lights when I lay in bed. When I eat my breakfast I see them, when I work in my garden I see them. I see them all the time. We can no longer look outside and see the once glorious view, it has been totally destroyed. I can't believe what has happened.

When you read Major Mitchell's history of the area the Basalt hills were treeless . Because you could see the contours of the hills is what made the Pyrenees ranges a thing of beauty. Now with the other proposed developments, I will be able to see 70 turbines to the South, 70 on Ben Moore to the West, 19 at Lexton to the South West and the 40+ Turbines at Waubra North/Evansford to the East, not to mention the existing turbines I can see from my home. I think I will go insane.

No one. No one came and told us what a horrendous effect wind turbines would have on the quality of our lives, living 32 kilometres from them. They sit on what was once a pristine ridge. There has been nobody who has looked at the visual effects from a distance. They haven't looked at where you live and the effect it will have .

We bought our property for the beautiful view. The land value is now stuffed. Our visitors have always said..... “wow what a lovely view, how lucky you are to live here.” Now they look at what has happened and their jaws just drop!.

I demand a the recall of approvals already given and a moratorium on Wind Turbine development until studies on health have been conducted.

Yours faithfully,

Martin Wynne