

Submission No: 119

Dear Sir,

I wish to make a submission regarding the proposal to use windpower in N.S.W.

I am absolutely opposed to the construction of wind turbines, particularly in pristine landscapes where they will, without doubt, be detrimental to surrounding residents, wildlife and the environment.

The disgraceful handling of this issue by the State Government and its planning minister Mr Sartor has shown a disregard for community consultation. What little consultation that has taken place is laughable and has deliberately involved the minority who would benefit financially from the introduction of windpower.

The wind farm proponents have been underhanded and deceitful in their attempt to establish wind turbines in N.S.W. They have approached farmers at a time of their greatest financial distress due to the worst drought in living memory. The proponents have sworn the landholders to secrecy when signing them to contracts to establish these turbines. When neighbours who are affected have finally discovered that they are likely to be surrounded by these industrial monsters, their relationships with their neighbours dissolves.

The division within what was once a close knit community is disastrous. Neighbours who have been lifelong friends are now at odds.

The lies and deceit that has been spouted by these proponents is yet to be discovered by the vast majority of the community. No one has explained that the life of the multitude of turbines that are proposed is limited and when they are no longer used, who is going to clean up the rusting hulks and the enormous concrete bunkers left littering the countryside.

There are too numerous negatives associated with the development of windpower to fully elaborate in this brief opportunity so I will simply note a few.

1. Devaluation of non-host properties.
2. Devastation of native birds, particularly birds of prey along ridgelines.
3. Likelihood of huge power stauntions and overhead powerlines crossing neighbouring properties and destroying the beauty of a rural scene (the kiss of death if that landholder is planning to sell).
4. Flickering effect of turbine blades across residences in the local area.
5. Constant noise effecting local residences.
6. Devastation to the scenic beauty of many breathtaking rural areas.
7. Conflict between members of the community who would otherwise be close friends and who previously have created one of the country's best and most attractive assets, that of a friendly country atmosphere.
8. Wind turbines are not an effective generator of power, they are only able to operate under desirable conditions. They do not work if it is too windy or if there is no wind.
9. The technology that is to be used is outdated.
10. Some of the turbines which are being imported for use in N.S.W. are second-hand and have been declared obsolete by European countries.

There are other options for power generation which need to be fully explored before we cause all the devastation that is associated with wind farms. If windpower is inevitable there must be more stringent restrictions placed on their location in an attempt to minimise the awful impact on the environment and the

lifestyles of those who have the misfortune to live in their vicinity.

I sincerely hope that you will help to expose some of the appalling repercussions of wind farms in inappropriate areas.

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Shaw