

**SUBMISSION TO PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY...27<sup>th</sup> JUNE,2007**

**The Committee Secretary,  
House of Representatives Standing Committee on  
Industry & Resources  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA. ACT 2600**

Submission No: .....105.....
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**To: Committee. ISR (REPS)**

**Subject: Submission on wind power facility at Bald Hills, Tarwin Lower.**

**From: Trish Jelbart**

**Re: Inquiry into developing Australia's non- fossil fuel energy industry**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to lodge my objection to the Bald Hills Windfarm. I am a landowner the area and am very concerned about the proposal to install wind turbines as they will be located within 2kms of my land. Clearly we will suffer from noise a large visual impact from a large proportion of the land.

The grounds for my objection are as follows:

- The visual impact of the wind turbines to this beautiful coastal landscape will be devastating. Many people visit this area to enjoy the unspoiled nature of the environment and future visits will be marred by these extremely prominent industrial like sites. Every time I view the massive installation proposed from our property I will be upset. Every time I drive through the massive installation proposed from my property I will be upset. Our property is especially suitable for at least 10 windtowers, but I am not interested in the financial gain as it would destroy the area.
- The proposed wind turbines will have a major impact on wildlife in the Bald Hills district in that they will kill birds and bats and in addition will displace fauna species relying on the area.
- The wind turbines are to be placed too close to the Bald Hills Wetland Reserve, the King's Flat Flora Reserve and the Cape Liptrap Coastal Park which harbour many threatened species.
- The many migratory birds passing through the area will be placed at risk by the wind farm.

- The value of the conservation reserves, coastline and landscapes will be degraded by the proposed industrial complex.
- Vegetation clearing would result in loss of habitat along important corridors for native fauna.
- The value of the area for tourism will be reduced by the wind turbines.
- The windfarms already installed at Wonthaggi and Toora are operating way below capacity; the area does not seem to be the ideal location. Perhaps the wind is too strong and unpredictable.
- Large government subsidies have already been invested in windfarms in the area that are not working to capacity
- The wind in the area is unpredictable and relies on the highly polluting baseload power generation from coal anyway.
- The community will suffer enormously and I have seen breakdown in friendships that have hitherto lasted 40 years, including my parents' friendships.
- The vast majority of people in the area are opposed to the windtowers ie in the order of 100 to 1. The local community have done the statistics and put together a map to demonstrate the enormous opposition by local landowners to the windtowers.
- But most importantly (in terms of my personal perspective), I grew up in the area and have spent thousands of hours enjoying the bush and farmland landscape whilst riding, doing stockwork, farmwork, walking and playing and have a 'spiritual' connection to this land, as do many others. I will be devastated if this beautiful area is marred by the proposed windfarm.

Wind generation of power can be a great asset to the state, but only if it is widely supported by the community. I believe the authorities would be better advised investigating the installation of a smaller wind generator on each farm whereby the electricity can be transported along existing power lines. Smaller wind generators might then become a part of the farm buildings environs and be more visually attractive and acceptable to the community.

I believe it would be preferable to consult with local communities. Locate those areas where residents find wind towers acceptable, rather than superimposing them on a community where the vast majority are opposed to such development.

Yours faithfully

Trish Jelbart