

**Submission
No 188**

SUSTAINABILITY OF ENERGY SUPPLY AND RESOURCES IN NSW

Name: Mrs Rosemary Miller

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Dear Committee Members

I am in favour of green renewable energy but only if it is reliable, economic and environmentally friendly and in for the long haul. From my research and observation I believe wind power has none of these qualities and wind farms involve many negatives, e.g:

- 1) Total clearing of old forest and native grasslands at wind farm sites and access roads.
- 2) Loss of nesting hollows and habitat for birds and wildlife, some of which are endangered.
- 3). Soil erosion
- 4). Noise and health issues
- 5). Alienation between families and friends within rural communities
- 6). In the case of bushfires, restricted access for water bombers in the vicinity of a wind farm
- 7). Huge tax payer funded government subsidies
- 8). Continuing rising household and business power bills
- 9). And to cap all these negative points is the fact that the transmission lines into which the wind farms are to feed their electricity are already full.

All of this for an irregular unreliable source of energy with battery storage being very limited and very expensive. Another factor is that the average life of a wind turbine is 25 years with no guarantee from proponent companies that they will either be replaced or decommissioned. With no government legislation in place to enforce the latter, there is a likelihood the turbines and towers could be left to slowly disintegrate causing damage to the environment especially when the blades are made of fibreglass. Add to this it has been calculated the carbon footprint created with the supply of materials, manufacture and construction of one wind turbine is far larger than the carbon that same wind turbine can save in its 25 year life So all in all I ask you what is the point of wind energy? Surely hydro and solar energy is far more practical. Wouldn't the annual \$1.2 million subsidy per tower be better spent on the research and development of affordable battery storage?

Thank you for giving me the chance to lodge this submission