

Submission
No 86

INQUIRY INTO RURAL WIND FARMS

Name: Mr D W and Mrs K G Smith

Date received: 21/08/2009

D W & K G SMITH

19 August 2009

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No 5
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir

Below is our submission and reasons for objection to wind farms being situated in densely populated areas that we wish the Inquiry into the proposed Kyoto Energy Park for Scone to address.

Whilst we support the idea of implementing the use of renewable energy we feel strongly that when doing so it should be constructive not destructive.

The proposed Kyoto Energy Park for Scone is inappropriately situated. With it being a short distance from the township of Scone the impact from these 150m high turbines, which have never been erected in Australia before – maybe even the world, are far too intrusive for such a densely populated area. The visual impact will invade our personal space way beyond what anyone should be expected to accept.

We purchased our property nearly 5 years ago, for a lifestyle change, to enjoy living on a rural property and away from any major industries and the noise and dust pollution that goes with them. At no time was there any mention to us that there was a wind farm proposed for the area. Had we had known this we would not have gone ahead with the purchase. We are most concerned with the devaluation of our property, as we are situated just below where these giant turbines will be located. We are also concerned about the noise and light flicker that will be generated. Not to mention that they look unsightly. We do not wish to wake up every morning and look out and see these giant monstrosities on top of the mountain spoiling our peace and tranquility.

NOISE appears to be an ongoing issue in regard to these industries causing numerous health concerns. Much research has and is being conducted in relation to health problems pertaining to living nearby to wind farms. Due to the fact that the proposed turbines are an 'absolute unknown' factor it would appear to us to be a fairly irresponsible outcome to allow 42 turbines to be erected along the two sites that have many people living nearby.

PROPERTY DEVALUATION: -In their EA Pamada have mentioned many areas which will have a high visual impact. Pamada themselves say in the EA that 'in the worst case scenario properties in view of the wind farm, will suffer a reduction in the value of their properties'. We believe that as we are in very close proximity to these giant wind turbines, that we will have 20-40% reduction in the value of our property, this concerns us greatly as we purchased our property as an investment for our retirement and when we decide to sell our property we will lose considerably, because who wants to buy a property directly underneath a wind farm.

The above are just some of our concerns in relation to the proposed wind farm, which if it goes ahead will change the landscape of Scone and the surrounding district forever.

Would you like these giant turbines in your backyard – we would not think so?

We await your reply.

Yours faithfully



D W & K G Smith