

Supplementary
Submission
No 15a

INQUIRY INTO RURAL WIND FARMS

Name: Mr Jim & Mrs Noreen Marshall

Date received: 5/08/2009

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23/07/09.

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

Dear Director,

Below is the submission that we lodged with the DoP in regard to the following development. We feel it fits the "terms of reference" for the Inquiry into rural wind farms.

Please find enclosed our submission in regard to the KYOTO ENERGY PARK project which is proposed for Scone, NSW. The following are the reasons why we strongly OBJECT to this project.

PROPERTY DEVALUATION: This Energy Park which at the very least is only a token gesture to obtain the green vote is going to decrease the value of our property by anything up to 30-40%. In the Pamada EA they say "worst case scenario is that properties in view of the wind farm will suffer a reduction in value". You do not have to be a rocket scientist to know that if you can purchase a lifestyle block away from 150m high turbines (which have never been erected in Australia at this stage and maybe even Globally) visible on your horizon, plus the noise, flicker, blade glint and other issues they bring with them that you are going to! Who gives anyone the right to make a decision that causes NOT just a handful of people to suffer this type of loss but "numerous" people as quoted by Pamada, anyone who is within 7.5 km's of these monsters. Will the impact extend further than this? These things are an unknown, and the project as it stands with 42 – 150m high turbines should never have got to this stage in this quite densely populated area.

COMPENSATION: We were told by the Pamada representative it not going to happen because it is hard to pay "emotional compensation". Now wouldn't that

gentleman knows all about that, when he himself said “landholder makes lots of money” he himself stands to lose lots but on the other hand “could make lots”.

VISUAL: Because we worked hard and achieved we have been (or were) fortunate to be able to purchase 2 small properties. One is close to Scone, which is going to be visually impacted by this project, the other is going to be decimated by this supposed “energy park”. “That in the scheme of things – produces very little unfortunately”, this from Pamada themselves. How can this project be justified! Pamada acknowledge in their EA that “the most sensitive receptors are the rural residences”.

EMOTION: I have watched over the last 2 years since we were made aware of this impending disaster, grown men and women cry because of what they are about to lose! One young woman who has a partner and a child broke down and wept in front of us after she had been to a meeting with Pamada. They may think they have attended to their PR side well but in actual fact they are so insensitive and uncaring, (for myself as a nurse, thank God they are not working in the caring field).

PROMISE: For my husband and I the saddest thing is many people believe that these monstrosities are going to halt coal mining within the valley. Your very own DoP, December 2005, “local mining potential in the UHV Strategic Planning Assessment “ makes us very much aware the Hunter is still going to play a major role in the mining of coal. It also states that if people are impacted on by “noise and vibration” that properties are to be purchased in the “affected zone” and the “secondary management zone”. May I ask why we have two separate standards? Are we considered to be of a lesser standing than the people who reside alongside a potential coal mining site on their rural residential lifestyle block? I find this a very disturbing variance.

HEALTH: It is only going to be a matter of time and there will obviously be major issues arise from the health impacts of this Industry. (It is an absolute insult to refer to them as farms). Research done by reputable people such as Dr. Nina

Pierpont, M.Alves-Pereira and N.A.A. Castelo Branco plus G.P. van den Berg cannot be all that far off the mark.

In conclusion I can only say I am totally disillusioned, landholder gets money, proponent gets money, local council gets money, indigenous person's get money, community gets money (to buy footy shirts, meals on wheels), dead birds get money (around \$1,500! how sick is that!) yet the people most affected get the offer to grow trees around their windows! Super! When you live on top of a hill and a bushfire occurs that is all you need - more trees! Beside which they have been known to increase the noise level by up to 2db's (NZ site).

At the very least if this disaster goes ahead we should be given the option of being brought out by the proponent and the landholder after 12 months, especially those within 3km/5km's of the turbines. If as the learned people indicate we are over reacting and we will learn to love the "green power" then no one need be overly concerned. However if people cannot live with this industry and wish to make a change then the option should be there. Price could be based on records over last 2+ years. This should be included in the approval!

Believe it, we are not against technology that is effective and situated in a suitable location. Go for the solar! These turbines are NOT suitable for the Glen Range due to its pathway between two parts of the Towarri National Park, its densely forested habitat for all sorts of wildlife, flight path for a busy airport and its outstanding Landscape such as Castle Rock. Mountain Station also has its own unique attraction.

Trust you will consider seriously what we have written; this submission is in relation to property known as "Gunnadoo", New England Highway, Scone. (End of submission).

Jim and Noreen Marshall,

