

Submission
No 50

INQUIRY INTO RURAL WIND FARMS

Organisation: Woodstock Partnership

Name: Mr James Larritt

Position: Owner

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I would like to register my objection to windfarms as a source of renewable energy. I base this objection on the following

1. They are detrimental to landscapes and industrialize these landscapes
2. They are not efficient enough as regards their output and timing of power production
3. They distort market forces in rural communities as the hosts are paid an excessive sum for providing the land to the detriment of the whole community especially neighbours who gain no monetary compensation.

They also distort rural land prices by devaluing land close to the turbines but not hosting the turbines.

There is also the distortion of the local land market by hosts being able to expand based on excessive turbine royalties rather than efficient agricultural practice.

4. They tend to be attractive to politicians because of their visibility to voters rather than their efficiency.

5. They are an outdated renewable technology that has been superceded in many other countries.

6. They will have long lasting impacts on the landscapes and the community relationships in the areas where they are being built.

Wind farms are a disaster for rural landscapes and communities. Australia and NSW in particular needs to look seriously at the renewables industry and issues. Hard decisions need to be made regarding research funding and areas of research. The governments need to be looking at technologies that will replace or provide baseload power. Windfarms will do nothing to alleviate climate change as you simply cannot build enough of them nor will they provide power when it is required. Politicians need to have the foresight and wisdom to look past windfarms and towards geo thermal , solar and wave energy options. They also need to seriously consider nuclear energy as it seems iif global warming is occuring at the rate stated by the scientists then it may be the only option we can bring on line fast enough.