

From: [REDACTED]
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Bango Wind Farm PAC submission
Date: Friday, 16 March 2018 5:25:47 PM

Hello,

I would like to make a submission to the upcoming PAC meeting for the Bango Wind farm. I am unable to make it to the meeting on the day, so I would like to make a written submission.

I live next to the Gullen Range Wind farm. My house is 1.7km from the nearest turbine and there are about 30 turbines clearly visible from our house. We do not host a turbine or receive any benefits from the wind farm beyond what others in the community are entitled to, such as solar panels from the clean energy program, and trees from the screening program. Yet we are very contented living here. We don't not find the turbines visually offensive, in fact we find them quite majestic. In fact, after the first month of construction, we barely notice them, as they seemed to have faded into the back ground of our visual awareness. We hear them occasionally, but we do not find the noise annoying. And similar to the visual aspect, we heard them most I the first month, and now are rarely aware of hearing them.

We have also recently had our property valued by an independent valuer who assessed that the presence of the turbines did not have any impact on the value of our property. My in laws, whose house is 1.2km from the closest turbine, also recently had their property valued, and again the proximity to the turbines did not have any impact in the value of their property. Our neighbours, whose house is 1.4km from the nearest turbine, bought their place after the construction of the wind farm, and the proximity to the turbines did not provide them with any kind of "discount" to the purchase of their property.

I do not write this to dismiss the negative experience of some other neighbours to wind farms, including the Gullen Range wind farm, as they have their own lived experience. I write this to help assure you that the majority of people living next to wind farms, are doing so quite contentedly.

The concerns of neighbours to wind farms do certainly have to be taken seriously, but it is my belief that many of these concerns, even noise, visual and value concerns, would be drastically reduced with improved communication and consultation from the very early stages of a wind farms development.

Another very important factor that has been shown to hugely reduce neighbour discontent is neighbour agreements. There are excellent models for how this can be implemented, such as Luke Osbourne's Proximity Rent Model. Arrangements such as this need to become standard procedure in wind farm developments to help reduce the amount of stress that the community experiences during the development of wind farms.

It is my understanding that it is being considered to remove 6 turbines from the planning approval of the Bango windfarm. I would like experiences such as mine to be thoroughly considered before taking this step. The fear of the visual impact of the turbines, I would say in most cases, is far more than the reality of their presence. We need as much renewable energy as we can produce to help us reduce our carbon emissions, and it would be a shame if the amount we produce as a nation is reduced unnecessarily.

I write this submission as an engaged Community member, however I am also a member of the Australian Wind Alliance as I believe their stance on wind farms is aligned with my own, in wanting to support the development of further wind farms, but only if they are done properly and with the benefit of the whole community taken into account.

I urge you to please consider not removing these 6 turbines from the planning approval, and also please consider the importance of good communication, consultation and neighbour agreements in the ability to a community to adjust to living with a wind farm.

Warm regards,

Dimity Taylor

Physio
Farmer
Mother
Engaged Community Member



Sent from my sandpit