12/12/11

RE PROPOSED FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM (reference: MP08 0252)

Dear Sir,

We are writing to express our objection to the proposed Flyers Creek Wind Farm. We are a local farming family who will be directly impacted by the erection of the Wind Turbines.

We would like to start by saying that we are in no ways against green energy. We have undertaken many measures to ensure our house is more environmentally friendly. We have taken advantage of the Governments Solar Power rebates and installed a solar hot water system. We rely on tank water for our own use. We have also taken advantage of the Governments toilet rebates to install split cisterns. Our light bulbs are all low energy use and we turn off appliances when not in use, instead of leaving on standby.

As a family that will be living within 2 kilometres from some of the Wind Turbines we are very concerned about their effects on our health. Having three young children aged four and under, we have concerns about their health and safety first and foremost. We feel not enough independent research has been done on the effects Wind Turbines have on our health. We do not want our children to be the ones who suffer as a result of looking "Green" on paper. We will be affected by the 'Flicker' effect that the Wind Turbines cause by the rising sun every day. The Wind Turbines will produce an audible noise that will most certainly disrupt our daily lives as we are used to having 'peace and quiet' in the country. Infigen, the company behind the erection of the wind farm, argue that the noise will be no worse than living in the city. We do not live in the city. We live in a rural area by choice. We enjoy our serenity. When the Government is trying to encourage more families to move from the city to the country, we are sure they do not produce photos of houses under a Wind Farm!

We are also worried about the effect the Wind Turbines will have on the value of our Property. Living within 2kms from Wind Turbines will definitely reduce our Properties value due to a number of reasons, listed below:

 Visual Impact – The height of the proposed Wind Turbines are as tall as the Sydney Harbour Bridge. When there is nothing nearby that can compare to this height and when they are positioned on top of hills, they will definitely be an eyesore.

- Health Concerns When researching Wind Farms in Australia and around the world, neighbouring landholders have reported a number of health issues. These include Headaches, Vertigo, Depression, Nausea, Panic Attacks, and Tinnitus.
- 3) Noise Everyone is aware that the Wind Turbines will produce a noise. No one would want to buy a Property in the country that is not quiet and peaceful.

New South Wales does not have guidelines set down that govern the construction of wind farms as compared to other states. South Australia and Victoria now have guidelines that cover many aspects of Wind Farms including the distance that they are allowed to be constructed from existing homes. We understand that the guidelines in these states would not allow the Wind Turbines to be within the proposed distance to our home at Flyers Creek.

Furthermore the amount of support for Wind Farms in our local area is not truly reflected in public opinion. Property owners in the Flyers Creek area that have been approached to have Wind Turbines constructed on their property get a large payment to firstly sign a contract and then ongoing payments for the life of the wind farm. These contracts limit any comments that the property owner may make publicly and together with the initial ongoing payment makes them a "supporter" of the Wind Farm. Surrounding property owners are left to suffer the consequences of an ill conceived Wind Farm project that is too close to existing homes.

There are many Families within the community that we know feel the same way as we do. The proposed Flyers Creek Wind Farm will be located close to quite a number of houses. It will also be located close to Errowanbang Public School, where we had planned to send our children. If the Wind Farm goes ahead they will not attend that school as we feel that it would not be an ideal learning environment.

We hope you carefully consider our objections, as well as everyone else's, when deciding on the future of this Wind Farm. We feel that if you were to come and see for yourself the area where this Wind Farm is proposed you will realise that it is too densely populated, and hence will disrupt too many lives, to be a viable decision.

Yours Sincerely

Geoffrey Knox

Vanessa Knox