

Mr. Graham Thomas, MP

Minister for Energy and Environment

Department of Energy and Environment

100 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

Subject: South Gippsland Wind Energy Project 11s

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| Submission No: 98 |
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To members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my objections to the proposed energy production unit at Bald Hills, South Gippsland.

I fear the identity and the beauty of the region will be severely affected for little reduction in greenhouse gas emissions if any.

The visual and noise pollution generated by the turbines will affect local residents, visitors and holiday makers as well as completely change the nature of South Gippsland as a quiet rural landscape bordered by coastal wildlife reserves that form an integral part to the Promontory Coast and the National Park not so far further.

There are already great tensions between a few proponent landowners and the rest of the local community.

There was also poor consultation of the latter and insufficient assessment of the impact of the turbines on the local fauna, both as an operating facility and at the construction stage of roads, concrete bases, powerlines, etc.

As well as fearing all the issues highlighted above, most in South Gippsland are afraid to be part of a big deception and disappointment when it comes to results of such experiment on the state of Victoria gas emissions.

Wind turbines hardly contribute to the reduction of emissions, they only very slightly increase the electricity generating capacity of Victoria (when the wind blows on the right day!). The efficiency of the proposed turbines is very low, as seen across several sites, and their impact on coal generated base load is theoretical.

While the motivations of the state government to reduce green house gas emissions are honourable, there is lots of money to be made by the power companies on the back of this sort of popular development of wind energy. The majority of farmers on the Gippsland Coast have turned down that money.

I personally would prefer to see the regulatory bodies implements energy generating or saving programs in residential and industrial zones rather than affect rural or wilderness areas to satisfy the monopoly of energy distribution and generation by power companies. Wind could be a winner but definitely not in the manner it is to be harnessed.

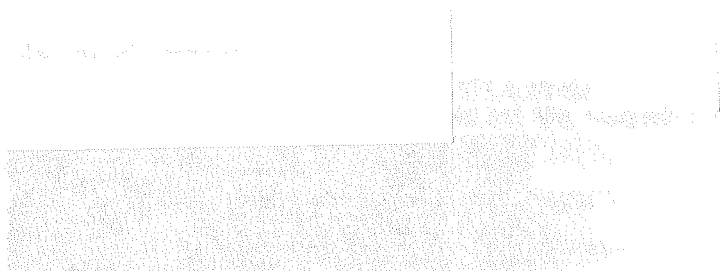
Wind turbine plants as they are being proposed and built are also seen as a temporary feel good band aid and the next ostrich farming. Unfortunately they will scar not only greedy landowners and developers but also landscapes and communities for very little gain across world skies.

I hope to quickly see a revised policy on wind energy by the government and a stop to projects such

as the Bald Hills one.

Regards,

Bertrand Honore



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