RE; Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Excessive Noise from Wind Farms) Bill 2012

As Tourist Operators we wish to make the following submission:

- We have been notified only three months ago by the neighbouring local Council (Mitchell Shire) and not by our own Shire Council – Murrindindi Shire.
  That a proposal for a 16 turbine Industrial Wind Farm (Planning Application No P306963/12)

- Our objection to the Council consisted of a number of issues that we raised regarding effects on Eco-Tourism, Lifestyle, Visual, Amenity, Wildlife, Environment, Heritage Listed Valley, Loss of Property Values, and the most important fact of gross inaccuracies and misleading documentation of the proposed Wind Energy Provider.

- One of the most important things that we noted in documentation available on the Mitchell Shire was the lack of information regarding 'INFRA SOUND', in our objection to Council and a copy of which has gone to VCAT we have quoted part of that objection with the following:

'NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF LOW FREQUENCY SOUND EMISSIONS from these turbines. This poses a major health risk to all people in this family and the Valleys around us. Low frequency sound, IN-AUDIBLE to the human ear, is not very well understood except in the military sense. For instance the US Navy communicate by low frequency sound with the nuclear submarines anywhere in any ocean or under the polar cap by low frequency messages!! Low frequency noise will create enoromous health problems for the local population. This application cannot be allowed to proceed until the above has been properly assessed.'

The MECHANICAL and WIND SHEAR NOISE of these turbines will be magnified by the two natural ampitheatres that can be seen when viewed from above, that are immediately behind the proposed towers and prevailing wind. No account has been taken of this NATURAL PHENOMENON or the higher Tallarook Massif that acts as an ACOUSTIC REVERBERATOR (45 decibels @ 1.5km is VERY NOISY, at source).'

We would be situated 3.5 km from these proposed turbines and would be subjected to all the above effects.

Could our submission be included in the considered amendment change to ‘Renewable Energy (Electricity) (Excessive Noise from Wind Farms) Bill 2012.

INFRA SOUND has to be considered as extremely important also the fact that we need AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS for acoustic assessments.

Yours faithfully,

Kerrisdale Mountain Railway & Museum Inc.