

From:
To: [Committee, EC \(SEN\); Madigan, John \(Private\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Federal Senate Inquiry
Date: Friday, 2 November 2012 11:33:24 AM

TO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
Amended Submission replacing submission forwarded 1/11/2012

I support the proposed amendments to the Renewable Energy Act because :-

1. I have had dealings with a wind energy proponent in relation to a proposed wind energy project which neighbours a property we own. My knowledge of wind energy developments leads me to believe that government has not developed appropriate planning for these projects and that regulation is deficient and inadequately monitored.
2. I, with four other families, at our own expense, arranged for independent noise testing to be conducted at our property concurrently with noise testing conducted by the wind energy developer so that data could be compared.
3. After two weeks of background noise monitoring, the independent logger was removed from our property on August 5th, 2012. On August 6th, a representative of the wind energy developer phoned to advise their met mast had failed over that period. I find it hard to believe that the developer would not check the reliability of their equipment over such a long period when conducting noise testing subject to a permit time frame. They can check their equipment remotely from Melbourne.
4. The wind energy developer knew we were conducting independent background noise monitoring as they had been advised via email by two other families involved.
5. In a letter dated 20th August, 2012, the wind energy developer advised their met mast fault occurred between 10th July, 2012 and 9th August, 2012. The wind energy developer's noise logger was placed at our property on July 21st.
6. The wind energy developer advised also in that letter that they do not provide access to raw wind or noise data. Why the reticence if transparency is important to them.
7. We are accustomed to many days of quiet ambient background noise and louder noise is intermittent. This industrial project which will emit continual noise through day and night will destroy the rural character of our home and workplace and our right to quiet enjoyment of our properties.
8. We have no confidence this project will be compliant. It is subject to the inadequate 1998 NZ noise standard in the permit granted. It is irrational that wind energy proponents are trusted to test for and collect all the data required to meet permit conditions and that relevant authorities are prepared to accept it without question. Raw data should be independently supplied to allow independent, external verification of compliance.
9. We stand to be greatly affected by the the proposed project which neighbours our property. We have no faith in the transparency of the wind energy developer involved.

Yours faithfully,
Geraldine Conheady