

28 JAN 2011

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SHIRE OF KOJONUP					
FILE:	DB.BDA.8				
CEO	MCS	MRCs	WM	COPO	PB
HR	SFO	NRSM	SHM	PLAN	

Graeme and Barbara Hobbs
PO Box 40, Kojonup 6395 WA

26th January 2011

To: The Shire President
Kojonup Shire Council
Albany Highway
Kojonup 6395

COPY

Dear Mrs Mathwin and Councillors,

RE: Submission re Wind Farm Proposal

Graeme and I wish to join others in an expression of concern as to the speed and secrecy of operations surrounding the Moonies Hill Energy proposal. Recent reports from some members of the medical profession have placed doubt on aspects of the safety of wind turbines - with the emergence of adverse health effects that may be related to nearby turbines. While we are not in the position to agree or disagree with these reports, we are sufficiently concerned to ask the Shire to take more time to hear from independent acoustic, scientific and health studies before committing the Shire to this project. We believe that such studies are being called upon by the Waubra Foundation in Victoria and we feel that the Shire of Kojonup should take the time to tap into such information so that they can make a clear and informed decision for the people of this district. In our opinion, this matter is not something that should be hurried - even if it takes two to three years to establish a position on the matter.

We are particularly concerned with any project that requires a quick response and also a response that precludes those most directly affected from being able to discuss aspects of the project with each other.

Also concerning is the fact that some of these proposed turbines will be less than one kilometre from homes - particularly as in recent European studies the recommended distances for turbines was several kilometres away from living areas.

We wish to make it clear that Graeme and I are not wholly opposed to wind farms as a means by which we can help solve the growing energy problems of the future, and nor are we of the camp that says 'not in our backyard'. However, we do feel that the expressions of concern by those most affected by the proposal do warrant clear and independent investigation. The Kojonup Shire has, in the past, stood out as a Shire which is independent in its thinking and prepared to do the research needed to satisfy its community. We respectfully submit that the Shire once again stand up and show that it will only make decisions regarding wind turbines based on full and independent information.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Hobbs

Graeme Hobbs

Barbara and Graeme Hobbs

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