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COPY

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SHIRE OF KOJONUP						26/1/2011
FILE:	DB.BDA.8					
CEO	MCS	MRCS	WM	COPO	PB	
HR	SFO	NRSM	SHM	PLAN	✓	

The Shire of Kojonup
CEO Mr Stephen Gash

Dear Mr Gash

Objection to the proposed Flat Rocks wind farm.

Our house is approximately 5 Km from the proposed wind farm but the nearest part of the farm is only 3 Km away. The farm has many sites suitable to construct dwellings that would be between 3 to 4 kms from the wind farm.

I wish to object to the proposed Flat Rocks Wind Farm Proposal. I object because of the following reasons;

1. The effect on the health of the people who live close to the wind towers.
2. The downward effect on land prices.
3. The danger of the wind farm starting fires.

1. The effect on the health of the people who live and work around the wind farm may be seriously compromised. Although there are no definitive studies to suggest that wind farms are unsafe, there is no word to say they are safe. There is a lot of information to say that some people have suffered serious health problems from wind farms (Ref; Dr Sarah Laurie, Medical Director Waubra Foundation, PO Box 1136 South Melbourne, VIC 3205, and <http://www.abc.net.au/news/video/2010/02/19/2825235.htm>)

It would seem prudent to wait until there is more information about this rather than risk the health of the people who currently live and work around the area of the proposed wind farms.

2. There will be an effect on the price of land. We don't want to live next to the proposed windmills and I am sure we are not the only people that feel like this, and that will obviously effect the desirability of land and therefore the price.

3. There is a history of wind farms starting fires, (Ref; *The Times, Fairfax Media, South Australia, Can't Fight the Fire, Elizabeth Sweetman, 4 Nov 2010*),

A Quote from the text is,

"Last Saturday at 2.33 pm, the Southern Fleurieu CFS group was alerted to a fire at the Starfish Hill Wind Farm, near Cape Jervis, in which a turbine had caught alight. The fire caused \$3,000,000 in damage. On arrival, CFS officers could do little but watch the blaze from half a kilometre away, as the situation was deemed too dangerous to approach. "There was not a damn thing you could do about it," said Mr Crawford of the turbine fire. When Work Safe arrived to the scene, CFS officers were told to retreat a further 500 metres away from the fire, as the blades continued to spin. "There were tips of the blades flying some distance," said Mr Crawford. "You could go no closer than a kilometre away." CFS officers kept watch for spot fires, but were unable to extinguish those close to the turbine. Water cannot be used to extinguish the cause of a wind turbine fire, as the turbine's hub contains a large electrical network and from ground to blade tip, the turbines stand at 100 metres tall." (The proposed towers are much bigger than 100m tall.)

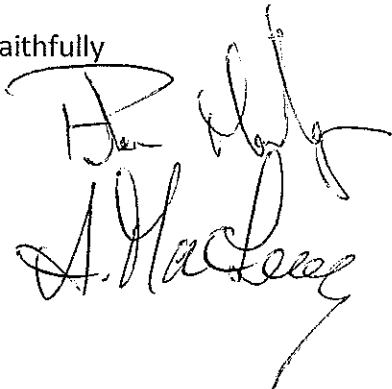
And the story goes on to mention, *"The Starfish Hill wind turbine fire is the third in South Australia since 2006, with a blaze at the Lake Bonney Wind Farm in January 2006, and another at Cathedral Rocks Wind Farm, Port Lincoln in February 2009."*

The Kojonup community members will largely bear the cost of fires started by the wind farm, and the danger of fighting these fires.

I would urge the Kojonup Shire to consider the divisive effect on the community, as the few who have the windmills on their farms are well compensated, while the many neighbours are seriously affected and receive no benefit.

These are our views on the proposal

Yours faithfully

Handwritten signatures of Anna and Peter Macleay. The signature above is Peter Macleay and the signature below is Anna Macleay.

Anna and Peter Macleay