

M. Ware

AAAC
Level 14, 120 Edward Street,
Brisbane QLD 4000

15.4.2015

Open Letter re: AAAC Position Statement on Wind Farms.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to inform you that my family own property and a home where we have lived peacefully for almost 20 years and next door to the CBWF for 6 years, before being forced to leave under doctor's advice because of the appalling situation we experienced as a result of the turbines.

We were one of the families participating in Mr Cooper's groundbreaking acoustic study that has been acknowledged as the first such study conducted not only at Cape Bridgewater but anywhere in the world; with the intent of openness, transparency and co-operation between a developer, the nearby impacted residents and an acoustician to get to the bottom of the problems being experienced by us the residents.

The AAAC submission to the Senate Inquiry into wind farms 2015 shows your knowledge of impacts of wind farm emissions on residents and acoustics is outdated and unacceptable.

- Amplitude Modulation does exist at wind energy plants in Australia and overseas
- 'A' weighting is inappropriate for determining the full impact of wind plant emissions on humans. It would seem that Noise Standards used are believed to have been developed specifically by the wind industry for the purpose of masking the truth of wind energy impacts.
- The measurement of the A-weighted value of wind farms (as a contribution) has not actually been established or validated. The inadequate method is a regression (average) line that includes wind/foilage noise and then an increment on top of that line.
- Listening to the ocean or my heartbeat is a natural and normal experience and is scientifically incomparable to the detrimental effects of listening to a wind farm which is powering up or down.
- With a hearing impairment I assure you that background noise levels are irrelevant and useless at masking the impacts I directly feel as sensations within my body and which are not 'heard' in any logical or useful way by my ears.

How is your Association actively investigating the impacts of infrasound be it natural or man-made on highly sensitised people, whom have suffered from years of exposure to a noise our bodies are not built to withstand for years on end?

Your claim as to infrasound being no higher than levels measured at other locations is highly misleading as you know very well that one needs to undertake narrow band analysis to show the wind turbine signature and then there is no comparison with the natural environment. Adelaide University, Health Canada and Mr Cooper's report put paid to your misleading comments about infrasound. Mr Cooper's ON-OFF testing of the wind farm clearly shows the difference and has been hailed around the world as a major breakthrough.

May I suggest you without bias, read Mr Coopers Cape Bridgewater report and his presentation to the current Senate Inquiry into wind farms and gain better understanding of the situation not only where we used to live (house 88) but at other wind farms experiencing the same or similar impacts around Australia and the world such as Waterloo, Macarthur etc.

The Planning process and handling of complaints of noise, vibration and sensation is and has always been inadequately addressed i.e. nothing has been done to rectify the ongoing daily and virtually non-stop problems and noise impacts still being experienced in our homes which do impact on our health.

As acousticians you have an ethical and scientific duty towards those of us being impacted to first listen to what we are saying and then learn from us and assist to prevent further damage and harm being caused to us by problems recognised to exist since the 1980's and the Kelley research findings.

The NHMRC have stated a group of people living in close proximity are impacted by wind farms and have hence set aside funding to research those detrimental impacts on human health. Until that research is completed I would think you have a duty of care to review and revise your opinion on current noise regulations and standards, set up by the wind industry that are insupportable for protection of nearby residents and which don't address the impacts of infrasound, we believe is causing our disturbed sleep and serious health problems.

Steven Cooper has laid the framework for further investigations into the problems he has determined exist by the use of his measuring dB WTS.

With turbine sizes becoming increasingly larger, with higher towers and longer blades, the impacts on people and wildlife increase proportionately and cumulative impacts of wind generating plants that are joining together in numbers up to five hundred and more are not being considered.

What is the cumulative impact of five hundred turbines emitting broadband noise, vibrations and sensations at a distance of 1km, 7kms or 10 km away? It seems very unprofessional that you do not care to find out by using systems other than measurement of dBA that never discovers what is exactly occurring.

Members of your organisation regularly work for wind farms and appear in the references to your submission to the Senate Inquiry into wind farms.

Members of your organisation have, when under oath, confirmed to courts that they are aware of complaints from residents about health impacts, sleep disturbance and having to abandon homes yet advise their brief was to just look at the Standard (Cherry Tree wind Farm VCAT) or pass the buck to the EPA (Stony Gap wind farm). Your members are well aware of the problems and have ignored their moral and ethical responsibilities to the community.

Where is the AAAC adherence to this acoustical ethic “The welfare, health and safety of the community shall at all times take precedence over sectional, professional and private interests.”

The AAAC clearly show ignorance and fail in your own duty of care and moral obligations for the welfare, health and safety of me, my family and others adversely affected by poor placement and poor inadequate monitoring of wind turbines, that have knowingly been built too close to people.

I request acknowledgement of receipt of this letter and a response to my concerns raised within it.

Sincerely,

Melissa Ware