



**OFFICE OF THE HON JOSH FRYDENBERG MP  
MINISTER FOR RESOURCES, ENERGY AND NORTHERN AUSTRALIA**

Ms Jan Hetherington  
[jan@jansfineglass.com](mailto:jan@jansfineglass.com)

MC15-004400

Dear Ms Hetherington

19 NOV 2015

Thank you for your email to the Hon Josh Frydenberg MP, Minister for Resources, Energy and Northern Australia raising your concerns about the effects of wind turbine noise on human health. The Minister has asked that I respond on his behalf.

In response to the recent Senate Inquiry on wind farms, the Government has appointed Mr Andrew Dyer as Australia's first Wind Farm Commissioner. Mr Dyer will work to resolve complaints. He will be able to refer complaints to relevant state authorities and help ensure that complaints are resolved. The Minister for Environment, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, has also appointed an Independent Expert Scientific Committee to provide research and advice to the Government on the effect of sound, including low frequency and infrasound from wind turbines, on human health and the environment. These measures will help to ensure that wind farm developments in Australia are managed appropriately.

This builds on the work of The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), which released an Information Paper on Wind Farms and Human Health on 11 February 2015. The NHMRC is Australia's peak body for supporting health and medical research and for developing health advice for the community, health professionals and governments. The NHMRC found that there is no consistent evidence that wind farms cause harm to human health and that it is unlikely that people would experience any harm to their health, if they live more than 1500 meters from a wind farm.

The NHMRC also considers that, due to the poor quality of direct evidence and ongoing community concerns, further high quality research is warranted. For this reason, the NHMRC has issued a Targeted Call for Research into wind farms and human health to fund independent, high quality, research into the possible health effects of wind farms and the causes of these health effects. The Targeted Call for Research is intended to attract applications for research and provide rigorous, independent analysis of the effects of wind turbines on human health.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Foran'.

Jessie Foran  
Senior Adviser