

Learning Task 3.2 Wind Power



Learning Task: Wind Power

Based on your research findings, write a letter to the community supporting the development of a wind farm.

Learning Outcomes

1. To critically consider the impact of emergent technologies from positive and negative perspectives.
2. To engage in research to inform understanding
3. To develop skills with writing exposition

Due

By Tuesday of Week 4

Suggested time commitment

1.5 hours

Scenario

Energy Australia is proposing to put a wind farm at Stony Gap on the [Tothill Ranges](#), approx. 5km from the town of Burra, South Australia.

[View the project proposal](#)

You are a resident in the district and in favour of the project for the benefits it will bring to the community and the general contribution it will make to clean energy and the environment.

The company has consulted the local community and compiled data on their attitudes and concerns toward the project.

[View the community survey report](#)

The regional council of Goyder has tried to block the development, citing potential health impacts on nearby residents from noise and vibrations caused by wind turbines. Although they have recently [withdrawn from legal proceedings](#) against the development, there are a few in the community who are still willing to take up the fight.

At the Burra Hotel one night you overhear an influential local talking passionately about the ill-effects of wind turbines and loudly expressing his staunch opposition to the proposal. You have been reading about the so called “Wind Turbine Syndrome” and you are concerned that opposition to the proposal may gain momentum.

[The power of suggestion generates wind farm symptoms](#)

[Wind turbine syndrome is spread by scaremongers](#)

You decide to take action and write an open letter to the community and send it to the regional newspaper, *The Northern Argus*, for publication.

Procedure

1. Read carefully through the scenario, investigating links to the external resources that will help you with the task.
2. Write an open letter to your community (approx. 400 words), which should:
 - Detail at least two benefits of wind power;
 - Detail two potential benefits for the community;
 - Address the concerns expressed by some of the community members, outlined in the community survey report (above).

For each of your arguments you must provide a supporting reference to a credible study/source using the [Harvard referencing system](#).

Your letter should be persuasive and passionate!

3. Post your letter to the [task discussion forum](#)