

Dear Andrew Dyer,

I'm a Port Stephens resident highlighting my community's outrage at the proposed wind farm set to be placed twenty kilometers in front of our glorious and, as of yet, untouched coastline. This merger deal with BlueFloat Energy and the Federal Government stands to be opposed by we residents in this area.

Chris Bowen has neglected to consult us, to whom a large portion of the community are lifelong locals, and intend to argue this contentious method of "power generating" is for the benefit of all. Let him please outline to me and ALL of my neighbors, the ways in which your atrocity of a visible eyesore will benefit the tourism epicenter of Port Stephens - Australia's second most Eastern Point behind Byron Bay? I'm waiting... come up a blank, haven't we?

Port Stephens, one of the most prominent whale migration passages in Australia, better known as Humpback Highway, holds a crystalline reputation for generating year round tourism with Australians and foreigners alike; who deem it a gem of natural wonder. Onlookers revel in the up close-and-personal-contact with whales who sport their annual travels up north for the winter months and return in the spring months with their babies, cultivating an ever growing audience, as they pass through their ecological reserve. There has not been enough proven study to verify the effect wind farms have on the annual whale migration. Boat Harbour is an ever famed vantage point for its privileged views and position as an untouched natural paradise! My hometown is only

growing in popularity with more and more visitors each year, warmly welcomed, who we invite to take part in wholesome outdoor activities to enjoy this awesome splendor. I know first hand of the local council's initiatives to improve the infrastructure of the area creating tourist friendly walks boasting an efficient route spanning from Fingal Bay onward toward Anna Bay Birubi Beach Lookout.

This leads to the crux of the argument opposing this intrusion, with a focal point on Williamstown Domestic's expansion into becoming an International Airport Transit, and the eventual outlay of the tourism boom to come. 2024 is heralding the biggest catapult in the tourism sector for Port Stephens this locale has ever beheld, as a result of Williamstown Airport's renewal, and yet it's in direct opposition to this decision which puts a stopper on the main touristic function the landscape boasts to entertain visitors. We'll have more feet on the beach walk paths, more eyes on the horizon line, but maximally less contact to nature's wildlife that draws interests and boosts both economic plus communal wellbeing to the port town.

Are we seeing an immediate clash of interests? They say nothing ventured, nothing gained... They obviously weren't declaring a wind farm to be stationed a mere twenty kilometers off a coastal shoreline unmatched the world over for its exotic beauty, the very year this place is to be, figuratively speaking, put on the map!

The Government opted to negate hearing out this community of people who make contributions to the land through homegrown conservation efforts. Our locally run group called No Coastal Wind Farm - Port Stephens hosts neighborhood meetings, rallies,

and fundraising events to save our Marine Park Sanctuary. Make this right by consulting us accordingly befitting of our concerns.

Kind Regards,

Rhys Westbury.