

Your Comment on the Southland Wind Farm project

1. Contact Details:

Organisation: Murray McDonald No.2 Family Trust

Name: [REDACTED]

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AFFECTED PROPERTY:

99 Campbell Road, Oware; Lot 1 DP 14600; Section 24 Block III Wyndham SD; Section 25 Block III Wyndham SD; Section 31 Block III Wyndham SD; Lot 1 DP 2446; Section 40 Block III Wyndham SD

2. I can receive emails and my email address is correct

COMMENTS

As caretakers and owners of the land located at 99 Campbell Road, we accept the opportunity to comment on the proposed Southland Wind Farm **with regard to Freshwater Management, Environmental Standards for Freshwater and the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation.**

As we have said in our previous comments, if this project goes ahead: “The land will be filled with masses of concrete and steel, with fibreglass, resin and /or plastic blades discharging their fragments into the air, onto the land and into the water.”

The area receives 1,000mm to 1,200mm of rainfall per year. The components in the construction of the wind turbines and the consumables used to run them will, to some extent, leach into the groundwater; ending up in waterways and wetlands, possibly causing degradation.

Wind turbines could be damaged in a natural disaster like the wind event that occurred in the area in October 2025. During this event trees were uprooted and sheds were blown away. In this scenario wind turbines could be damaged causing further pollution of air, land and waterways. Some wind turbine fires have been documented around the world resulting in pollution to air, land, and water. In the event of a natural disaster or an accident, material from one or more wind turbine is likely to pollute the neighbouring Catlins Conservation Park, waterways and the environment in general; adversely affecting the community and individual landholders.

Repair and replacement of wind turbine parts and disposal of consumables, as well as decommissioning of wind turbines; require a mechanism for disposal, whether at the site of the wind farm, or somewhere else. Turbine blades require a massive area for disposal, threatening the health of waterways on or near the land where these turbines are proposed to go, or elsewhere if moved off site.

The National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation refers to a target of 90 percent renewables by 2025. Pursuit of renewable energy quotas must NOT take precedence over the protection of areas like Slope Down Hill, one of the most iconic landmarks in Southland. The fast tracking and development of New Zealand's renewable energy resources must not be allowed to take precedence over high value scenic and conservation areas like Slope Down Hill, the adjacent Catlins Conservation Park and designated scenic area. The push for renewables must not be given more weight than environmental protection and conservation.

As stated in our previous feedback, the Southland Wind Farm will harm wildlife that venture from the adjacent Catlins Conservation Park and designated scenic area. The potential for turbines to affect wildlife especially birds, bats, and insects both directly, via collisions; as well as indirectly due to noise and light pollution, habitat loss, and resulting reduced reproduction are huge concerns. Noise and light pollution would also adversely affect farm animals living under or near the turbines. Wind Farms reduce farmland for food production. There are also potential health risks for humans. If this project goes ahead dark sky areas will be destroyed. Tourism will also be threatened as tourists do not come to see wind turbines on iconic Southland hills.

If this goes ahead it will show that the country is disingenuous about its commitment to the natural environment. Quotas must NOT outweigh the evidence supporting the protection of Slope Down Hill, the adjacent Catlins Conservation Park and designated scenic area. These areas need protection NOW for the generations to come.

Wind Farms in this location have been turned down before. Don't let this go ahead because Contact Energy Ltd has the finances to keep fighting.

Please REJECT this wind farm project.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(Thursday 5th February 2026)