

From: [MOORILAH](#)
To: [CCA Submissions](#)
Subject: wind farm commissioner
Date: Monday, 9 April 2018 4:05:31 PM

To whom it may concern.

Of necessity this submission will be brief. We are dealing with the impacts of the St Patrick's Day fire which is taking all our time and energy.

We lodged a formal complaint with the NWFC against the Macarthur Wind Farm, detailing the disruption it has caused to our lives through sleep disruption, and the consequences this holds for our future and our children's future.

We met with the Commissioner and with AGL. The Commissioner had a form he required us to sign before the meeting proceeded. We refused to sign this but the meeting proceeded anyway. We were not allowed to have anyone at that meeting to speak on our behalf. We felt this was unfair given that the AGL representative had a background in law. While we are not stupid we are not used to dealing with big business and the way they can manipulate things to their advantage.

Some correspondence followed this meeting but there did not seem to be any desire on the Commissioner's part to find a resolution to our problem. We later nominated someone to represent us as liaison between the Commissioner and AGL. This person also undertook to represent other complainants. Shortly after this our nominee withdrew because of pressure exerted by either AGL or another wind farm operator.

It was not long after this that we attended a meeting where the Commissioner gave a presentation. It seems that the Commissioner took his role to facilitate wind farms very seriously. He had lots of ideas of how to get around the locals, and convince them that wind farms are great. (I know this sounds cynical, but over time and reading his various findings, reports and power point presentations this is certainly the view I formed.)

It seems he took his role to resolve issues far less seriously. My impression is that he went through the motions to tick the boxes, without achieving much at all.

Earlier this year I asked the Commissioner if our complaint was one of those that had been closed. I found it was. When giving a reason for this it was that we had not corresponded with him within some arbitrary time frame. Because he didn't hear he closed our complaint. At no time did he give us a deadline to respond, or query why we hadn't responded. We were not informed of his intention to close our case, and only found that it was closed because we inquired.

I believe the appointment of the Commissioner has been a sad failure. I don't believe there should have been 2 parts to his role – one supposedly resolving complaints, and the second working out how to best facilitate wind farms. I believe the Commissioner has a bias towards wind farms and that this prejudiced his interactions from the start.

We needed a Commissioner, but we needed one who was open and sympathetic, one who

understood the very grave consequences of wind farms being built too close to people.

Christine Jelbart



April 9th 2018



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