

## MEDIA RELEASE ... MEDIA RELEASE ... MEDIA RELEASE

### Hepburn Locals Visit Waubra Wind Farm

Monday 26 July 2010 – Daylesford

On Saturday 17 July, 25 local residents visited the Waubra wind farm, one of the largest in Australia. The tour was organised by Hepburn Wind, who is building perhaps the country's smallest wind farm, with the aim of giving locals a chance to experience wind turbines first hand.

All in the group were keen to speak with residents in the Waubra area to understand the impact of the wind farm on locals. Koos Hulst, director of Hepburn Wind said, "We met with a farmer who had three turbines on his property and a resident who could see a large number of turbines from her property. Both talked about how they have not experienced any negative impact themselves but said that some members of the community still held strong objections. One landholder said that the media have only focused on negative reports from a small number of residents and haven't reported on the positive benefits for the community."

Members of the tour group stood directly under turbines from the 192 turbine wind farm completed last July. "With only two turbines, the Hepburn Wind project is of a much smaller scale. However it was very informative to visit an operational farm not far from our community. If there is enough interest, we will run further tours." Koos said.

Hepburn Wind has raised almost \$8m from over 1200 members and is scheduled to start construction works in Leonards Hill in October. The two turbine wind farm is expected to generate more energy annually than used by the houses in Daylesford.

#### Media Contacts

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Photos from the day are available at

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/hepburnwind/sets/72157624449101261/>