Your Honour, my name is John Rounce and I am a residential owner of 173 Valley Views, Palmerston North. I have a power point presentation, if I might begin using this? I also have provided a copy of my Representation which I will be reading largely verbatim.

Slide 1

I thank your Honour, The Board of Inquiry, and the Organisers for the privilege of being heard today.

I am aware that on the start of the Hearing process your Honour was seeking to focus the hearing by having like-minded groups report collectively. However I found the time frame restrictive so as to: extensively peruse the plethora of views, submissions, and amendments that have been dispatched; to align to such commonality; and to organise myself in time … and thus I have founded it equally as efficient to simply represent individually my viewpoints.

None-the-less I speak on behalf of a household of eight: that is my partner & myself; her parents and their grand-daughter; and our own three children.

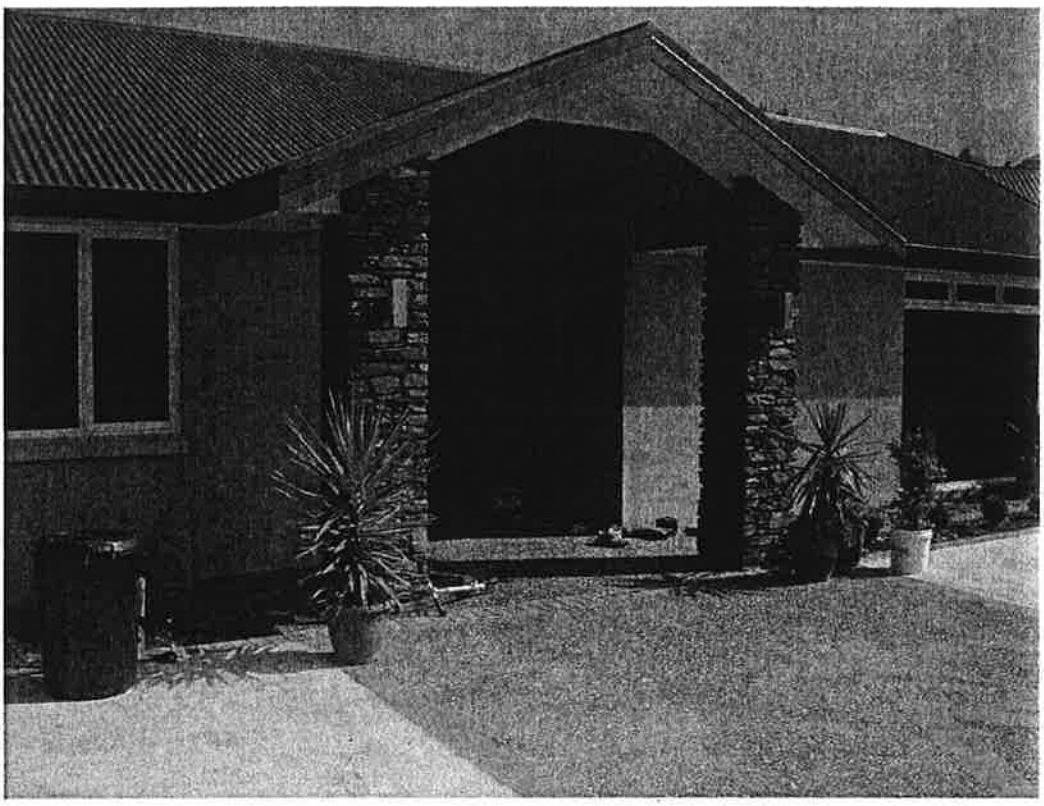
Slide 2

The following image taken from Google Earth presents our property as occupying the co-ordinates around: Latitude 40° 23' 47.42" S and Longitude 175° 38' 58.82" E as indicated by the yellow star.

Although we purchased the property approximately 2005, we didn't begin construction until the end of 2007. In the interim we invested heavily in designing our home and this included use of materials that reflect or blend into the semi-rural environment of our property.

Slide 3

I am here to request the Applicant be made to do the same.

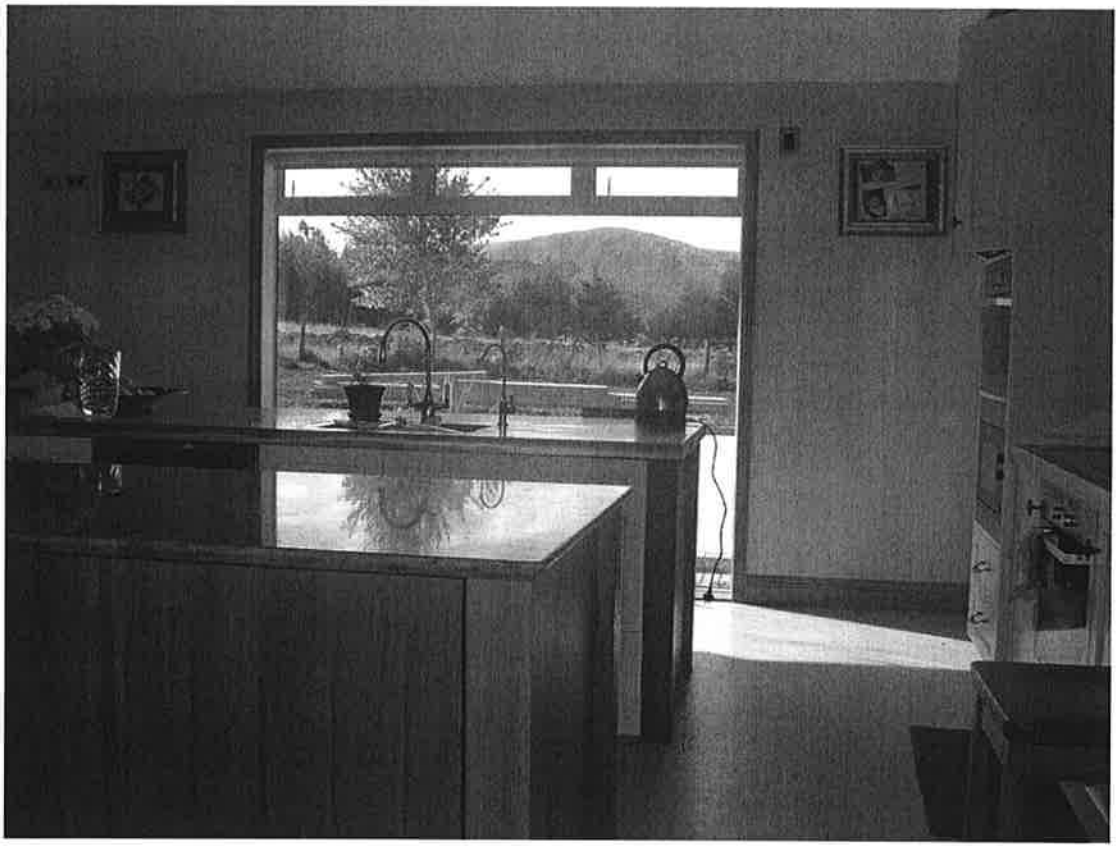


Our design also specifically features large windowed viewpoints to show-off our extensive property and its outlooks i.e. a property that has a strong 180° West to Easterly focus. The concept is based upon expanding the interior by the illusion of bring the outdoors in.

Thus I draw your attention to the window at the far right of the image of our Main Entrance.

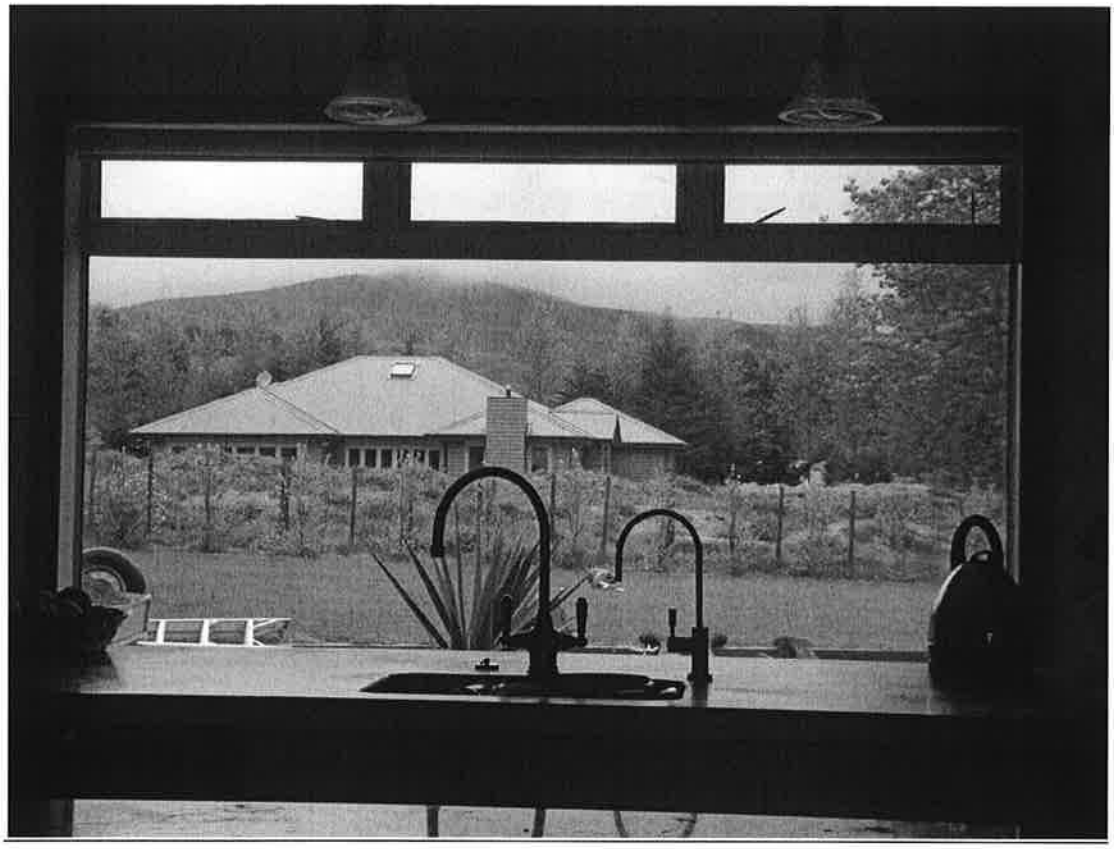
This is the view, from inside, that we have to the East from that window

Slide 4



Since the time of my written submission we have new neighbours but the view is largely unchanged i.e.:

Slide 5

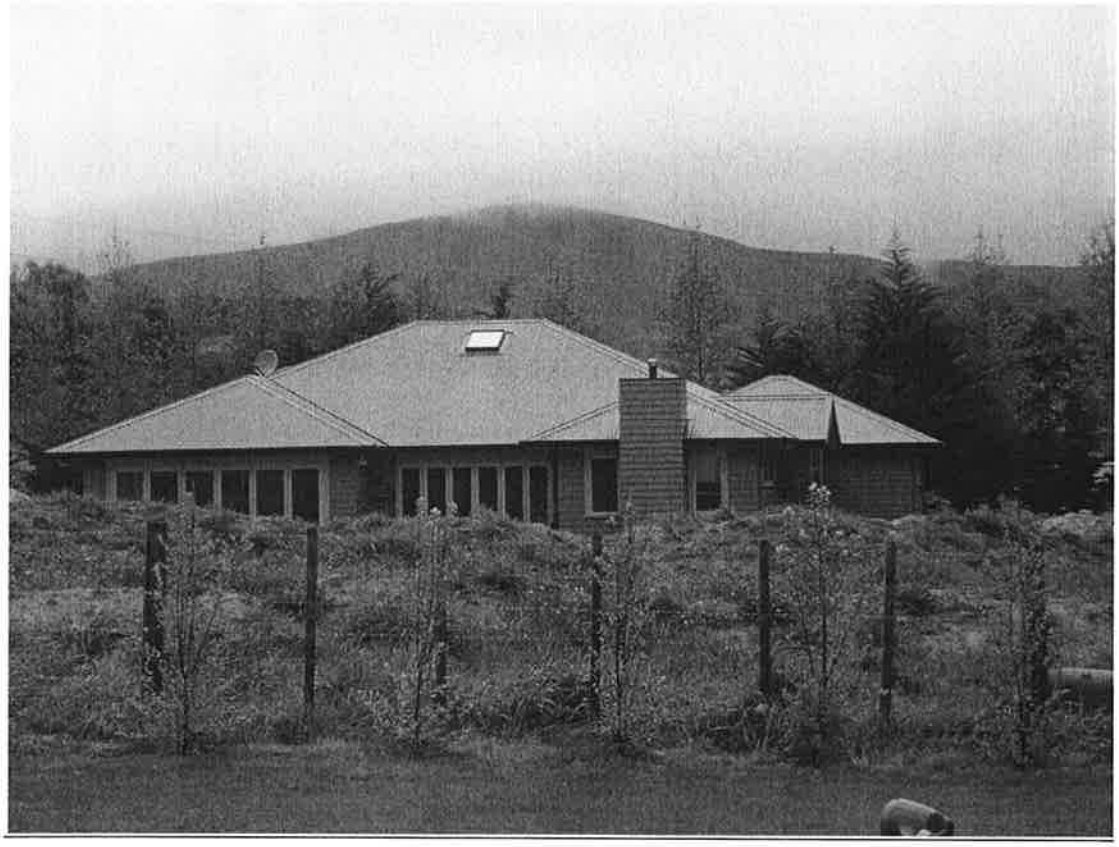


The next slide shows the view in more detail.

Slide 6

And again, the same but more recent photo

Slide 7



These digital images do not really do justice to the perceived proximity of the Eastern spur shown. Regardless, the Eastern viewpoint forms a significant outlook both within and to the outside & main entrance of our home. This spur I believe is called Bryant Hill.

I acknowledge that, as these images show, we have begun native plantings on our boundary and on the neighbouring Eastern boundary a mixture of Poplar & Pine trees already exist. With significant time beyond the immediacy of the establishment of the proposed Wind farm they may mitigate visual effects, however equally the latter group's proximity may eventually pose risk to their dwelling and they may consider their later removal.

Such speculation however does nothing to ease our concerns regarding noise. I will return to this point later.

Also our property is not limited to just this potentially affected perspective.

Slide 8

The property includes a pyramidal section of hillside below Pacific Drive housing. The following images are taken from within our boundary at the apex adjacent the neighbours pine plantation.

Slide 9

And sweeping somewhat further South-East ….

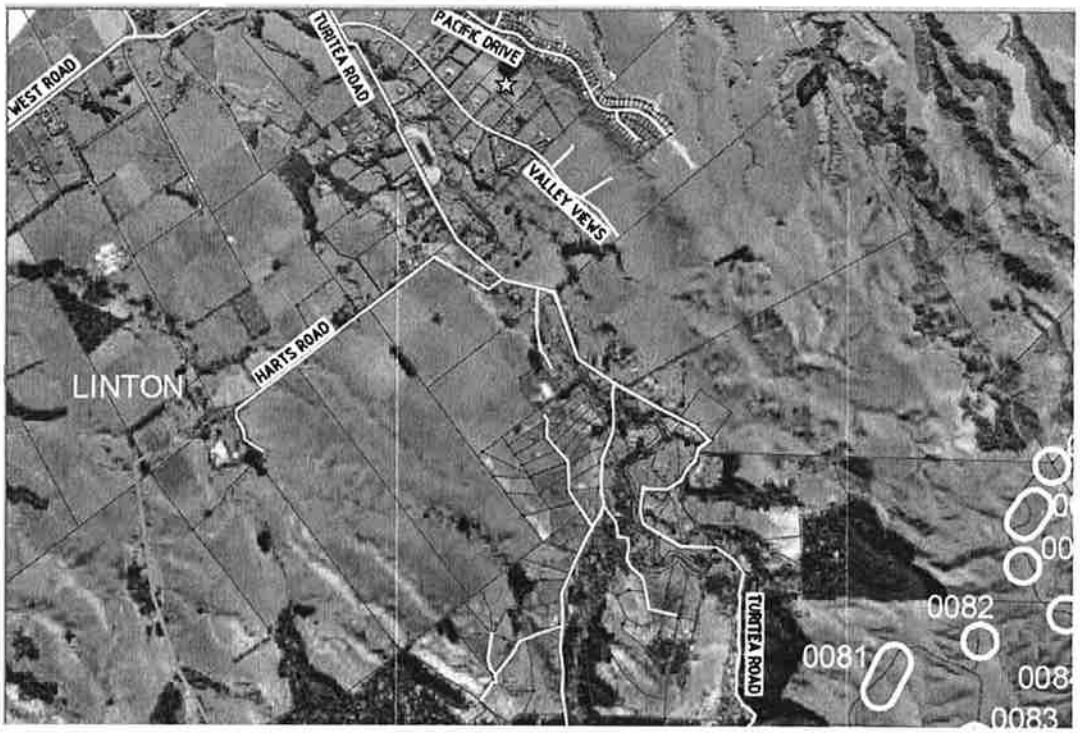
Slide 10

The outlook, of course extends further south. My apologies as both these images were taken in the recent inclement weather and cloud cover masks the upper reserve hills. The point being though, that for a significant portion of our property, mitigation will be not an option.

I now wish to focus in on our concerns regarding the closeness of the proposed turbine placement.

Based upon the Applicants revised layout (January 2009) I estimate we are approximately 3km and directly within line-of-sight of nearest turbines.

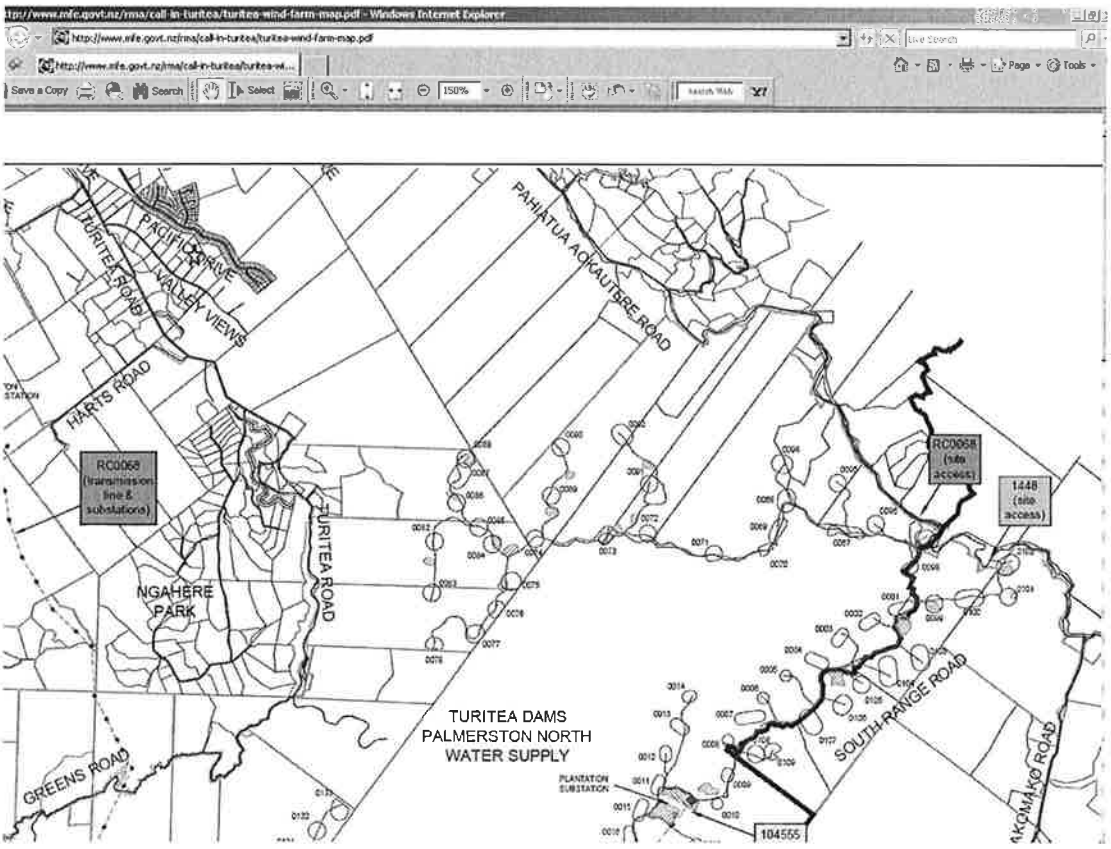
Slide 11 *use pointer.*



Our property is located in the quadrant below and to the right of the caption reading "Pacific Drive". I have highlighted it with a yellow star. Although this layout is outdated, with removal of turbines 079, 080 and 081, it does give a feel for the contours of the surrounding land.

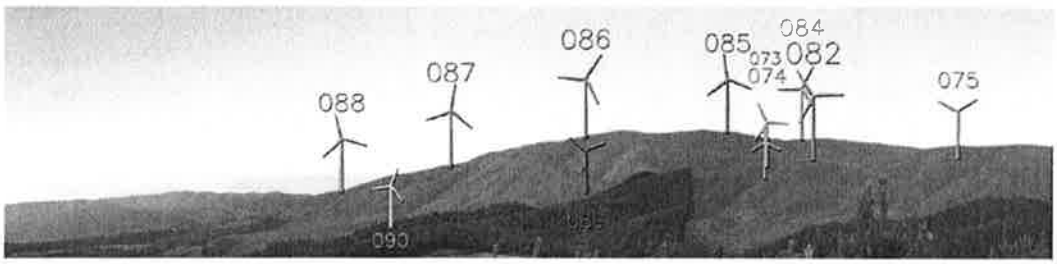
A flatter image but more technically up to date, until further projected layout refinements, this from the Ministries web site layout, where our property this time might be located as containing the letter 'D' within the caption of Pacific 'D'rive. Again I have marked this with a yellow star.

<u>Slide 12</u> *use pointer*



My apologies that I cannot 'image' exactly what we are expected to see looking East to the proposed layout. I too would have appreciated such an accurate resource. The best photomontage available suggests that I will see most, if not all, the following turbines:

Slide 13



Indeed it has been suggested that, given the size of the turbines, we may in fact see more to the North and/or upper South-East. Regardless our view point will be dominated by turbines: 082 through to 088 and 073 – 075. Alone, this is a significant number in itself.

The visual proximity is one issue. The potential of our property being subjected to noise from the Wind Farm is another.

I acknowledge I have no specialist credentials regarding the projected noise characteristics however I will take the opportunity to raise concerns that a 10 day

measurement period of closest site number #10 in the Hegley Consultancy report #7720 to our minds inadequately reflects the potential chronic noise exposure we will face over all seasons and weather patterns.

I would hope that more expert opinion would be derived at this Hearing to assess parameters such as cloud layers & processes on a geography that acts as a natural amphitheatre. And further to this, that the complexity of interference patterns derived from multiple turbines staged at differing contour levels is thoroughly evaluated.

However the fact that the NZS6808.1998 standards for noise measurement were under review at the time of my writing a submission is indicative that methodologies being employed are being challenged with regards to the sensitivity or resolution for the purpose they are intended.

Currently our property feels like a sanctuary. It is exposed to next to no urban noise what so ever. Our extended Family, friends and Visitors alike often comment at the peaceful nature of our location. Especially at night time there is almost complete and utter silence. The current peace is uplifting and valued by Us all.

Contrary to the Hegley reports conclusions I feel our home environment and Families health is at risk (more so from chronic exposure as opposed to acute). As such it should be afforded a high level of protection (as a residential area in a quiet environment) as it would under the Resource Management Act section 16.

The wind industry affects our home and property as a whole and this includes activities across our section. As such it affects not only my Family but also race horses we have begun investing in & periodically graze between their training sessions. These animals are valuable and an expensive on-going concern where by any risk to their health needs to be carefully monitored. I have no wish for them to be disturbed or have sound as a causative feature placing them at risk of being uneasy or flighty, such that it might contribute to any injury.

In the past I have personally lived in locations where there has been considerable urban noise. Now: I do not wish to hear even an additional 0dBA above background. We do not wish to feel that we must retire indoors on our extensive four acre property to escape any degree of annoyance. We do not wish to take proactive steps such as closing our windows and endure any form of confinement on a sizeable 'Lifestyle' property.

But it is even more difficult to see how we can possibly be able to hide from the visual exposure of the massive turbines. They will literally be "in our face". The Manawatu skyline has already been transformed in a significant manner that now defines our region but this should not be extrapolated so as to be seen as a trend or *fait accompli.*

Wind derived energy is deemed to be the driver behind the Hearing but the original two purposes of the Turitea should not be forgotten or diminished. Each location has its own uniqueness which needs to be protected .... Probably none less so than the Turitea Reserve area and its surroundings where my Family lives.

The proximity of the turbines to our Family home is too close and inappropriate. As well as imposing a substantial change upon our Lifestyle it will also devalue both the realised and intrinsic value that we hold as important to our property and home.

My partner and I and our parents and children have a quality of Life that we do not want changed by industry. Our home is also our haven and we want to take advantage of the size of our property to raise our children in a healthy environment, not one that is visually or acoustically challenged, let alone polluted.

In the interests of our dwelling, as part of the local residential community, I am asking that the applicant be denied their consent.

Thank you your Honour, members of the Board of Inquiry and Organisers for this opportunity to be heard today.