



Ottawa, Canada K1 A 0K9

**JUN 24 2015**

Ms. Virginia Stewart Love  
267093 South Line B  
R.R.2  
Proton Station, Ontario NOC 1 LO

Dear Ms. Stewart Love:

I am pleased to respond to your e-mail of April 12, 2015, regarding wind turbine noise and the authorities outlined in the *Radiation Emitting Devices Act*, which was forwarded to me on May 1, 2015, by your member of Parliament, Mr. Larry Miller.

Health Canada's role with respect to wind power includes providing advice, upon request, to the federal departments involved in wind turbine projects, as well as to the provinces and territories, on the health impacts of noise from proposed wind turbine projects. The provinces and territories, through the legislation they have enacted, make decisions in relation to installation, placement, sound levels and mitigation measures for wind turbines.

As you are aware, Health Canada, in collaboration with Statistics Canada and other external experts, launched a research study in July 2012 to explore the relationship between exposure to sound levels produced from wind turbines and the extent of health effects reported by, and objectively measured in, those living near wind turbines.

Health Canada's Wind Turbine Noise and Health Study was carried out in acknowledgement of health-related complaints from individuals living in close proximity to wind turbines and to support a broader evidence base on which jurisdictions can base decisions as to the placement of turbines. A summary of results of the Study was released on November 6, 2014, on Health Canada's website at [http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semtlnoise-bruit/turbine-eoliennes/\\_index-eng.php](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semtlnoise-bruit/turbine-eoliennes/_index-eng.php). No evidence was found to support a link between exposure to wind turbine noise and any of the self-reported or measured health indicators examined. However, the Study did demonstrate a relationship between increasing levels of wind turbine noise and annoyance towards several features (including noise, vibration, shadow flicker and the aircraft warning lights on top of the turbines) associated with wind turbines.

Section 6 of the *Radiation Emitting Devices Act* establishes obligations for manufacturers and importers of radiation emitting devices to report incidents of noncompliance or defect to the Minister of Health. The manufacturer would be obliged to report under section 6 if the device does not comply with the standards, if any, or creates a risk to any person of genetic or personal injury, impairment of health or death from radiation by reason of the fact that it

- does not perform according to the performance characteristics claimed for it,
- does not accomplish its claimed purpose, or
- emits radiation that is not necessary in order for it to accomplish its claimed purpose.

There are no standards developed under the Act that apply specifically to wind turbines, and currently the weight of evidence does not support an association between the noise (radiation) from wind turbines and effects on human health.

Health Canada remains committed to protecting the health and well-being of Canadians and will continue to review any new scientific literature that becomes available.

With respect to your concerns regarding the Council of Canadian Academies (CCA) Expert Panel report, please note that the CCA is an independent, not-for-profit organization. Any questions on the report or the committee's findings should be directed to the CCA at [info@scienceadvice.ca](mailto:info@scienceadvice.ca).

I appreciate having had this opportunity to respond to your concerns.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rona Ambrose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Hon. Rona Ambrose, P.C., M.P.

c.c. Mr. Larry Miller, M.P.  
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound