

Wind farm review call sparks backlash

Adam Langenberg

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No wind farms should be approved or built until an independent review is carried out into how best to manage health concerns stemming from excessive noise, SA Best MP Connie Bonaros says.

Ms Bonaros said a World Health Organisation report meant South Australia needed wind farm noise guidelines to “prevent serious adverse health impacts” on those living nearby.

The State Government must take “urgent and decisive action” given noise concerns and a contentious plan to build 26, 240m high wind turbines at Crystal Brook, in the state’s Mid-North.

Energy and Mining Minister Dan van Holst Pellekaan said all applications would continue to be assessed under regulations in place at the time.

Greens MLC Mark Parnell said he would oppose Ms Bonaros’ motion, saying she was continuing her party founder’s “crusade” against the wind industry. “Nick Xenophon was public enemy number one for the wind industry so it’s no surprise that his party is carrying on his crusade against one of the most effective forms of grid renewable energy available”, Mr Parnell said.