

Gippsland Off-shore Wind Farm

Ever wondered what communities main concerns are when considering an offshore wind farm?

This factsheet summarises the main concerns registered by the Gippsland Community during consultation. Gippsland is on Gunai Kurnai Country in Victoria.



Environmental impacts

- Effects on marine life, including whales, dolphins, and fish
- Potential disruption to bird migration routes, especially penguins and seals
- Fear damage to underwater habitats
- Impacts on seabed habitats during construction

Visual changes

- Some people don't want to see wind turbines on the beach
- Worried about lights from turbines at night

Economic considerations

- Fishermen are concerned they might not be able to fish in some areas
- Worried about how it might affect fish populations
- Tourism, some think it might make the area less attractive to visitors
- Local impact for community members

Infrastructure and safety

- Concerns about new power lines on land
- Worried about more traffic on roads
- Some people are concerned about noise from the turbines
- Questions about what happens to old turbines when they're not used anymore

Health concerns

- Noise and vibration effects on coastal communities
- Long-term environmental effects



Teacher answer guide

Scientific based concerns	
Environmental impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effects on marine life, including whales, dolphins, and fish• Potential disruption to bird migration routes• Impacts on seabed habitats during construction
Visual changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visibility of wind turbines from the shore• Night-time light pollution from safety lights
Economic considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potential effects on commercial fishing areas• Possible impacts on tourism due to changes in coastal views
Infrastructure and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need for new transmission lines and onshore infrastructure

Potential misinformation and disinformation	
Cost claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assertions that offshore wind will significantly increase electricity costs
Environmental misconceptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Claims of widespread damage to all marine life
Economic exaggerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overstated impacts on fishing and tourism industries
Health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unsubstantiated claims about general health impacts