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Other People's Ideas

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This month's "Other People's Ideas" is focused on Wind Turbines. I have reviewed the hearinghealthmatters.org blogs and come up with five blogs that I believe provide a nice summary of the possible impacts of wind turbine noise. As most of you know, I am kind of a "Monday morning" type of guy and thus I feel or reach for the need to find something we as clinicians can use straight away from any educational experience. The five blogs submitted are interesting to me because there is uncertainty and disagreement. I like that I now have something to look at in greater detail, that I probably would have never otherwise encountered. I am by no means educated on wind turbine noise nor do I feel able to discuss the merits of the two views provided but I am captivated by the stories of the people living near these systems. I wonder how many of them have walked into a hearing clinic; saw their family doctor or are not impacted at all. I can see how a new patient type that audiologists may be exposed to over the coming years. The mention of tinnitus, dizziness, ear pressure or pain all are routine in our clinical practices, but is the link to wind turbine noise routine; have we started to ask the questions related to infrasound or low-frequency noise-exposure; and maybe before we even ask these questions, what can we offer to help these patients? I know up until recently I had not even asked these questions; how about you?