

Ms Ella Behlyarova
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Environment and Human Settlement Division
Room 332, Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland



30 June 2015

Dear Ms. Behlyarova,

It is my honour to submit herewith a Communication to the Compliance Committee of the Aarhus Convention. In this Communication the Kingdom of the Netherlands is held to be in violation of the Convention for its conduct in formulating and implementing policies and decisions on wind energy and wind farms.

I submit the Communication on behalf of the "Nederlandse Vereniging Omwonenden Windturbines" (NLVOW; the Netherlands Association of People Living in the Direct Vicinity of Wind Turbines), an association with approximately 1,000 members and with legal personality under Netherlands law. The members and organizations listed in the Annex to this letter have contributed particularly, either in kind or financially, to the Communication.

The Communication concerns all three "pillars" of the Convention. It is argued that, in the environmental domain in question (wind energy and wind farms)), the Netherlands is not in compliance with the provisions of the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice.

I trust that the Communication meets all requirements of admissibility. If there are issues or questions in this regard, I would be most grateful to hear from you at the earliest convenience of the Committee and you personally.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. W. Koers', written over a horizontal line.

Prof dr. Albert W. Koers
Chairman NLVOW

Contact information

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Cc: Netherlands ministers of Economic Affairs; of Infrastructure and the Environment; and of Foreign Affairs

ANNEX

The following individuals and organizations have actively contributed to the Communication. Their names are listed here to emphasize that the Communication does not arise from the militancy of an activist organization, but from genuine concerns and actual problems of real people. The 56 names below are just a small percentage of the many people in the Netherlands whose right to live in a healthy environment is under threat.

1. A.F. Augustin, Amersfoort
2. Bettie Baars, Hagestein
3. Barend Bierman, undisclosed
4. Rixt de Boer, Wieringerwerf
5. Marian en Hans van den Bergh, Drouwenermond
6. J.G. Borggreve, undisclosed
7. G. Bos, Wieringerwerf
8. Ad van den Bosch, Nieuwediep
9. K. Brandwijk, Gieterveen
10. Liz van Buuren, Houten
11. C.J.A. Cieremans, Nieuw Beijerland
12. J. Dekker, Piershil
13. Irene Driehuis, Coevorden
14. C. van Dijk, Annerveenschekanaal
15. M. Ebbens, Lelystad
16. Tegenwind Gerkesklooster-Stroobos
17. Jurgen Gilsing, Netterden
18. Theo Haffmans, Utrecht
19. Jeroen Hoogendoorn, Pingjum
20. J.A.C. van der Horst, undisclosed
21. G.G. Jägers, Piershil
22. Fred Jansen, Schagen
23. Dirk de Jong, Angerlo
24. Wouter Keller, Capelle a/d IJssel
25. Henk Kerkhof, Utrecht
26. Petra Kruize, Stadskanaal
27. Emil van Liere, Middenmeer
28. Maria van der Linden, Schettens
29. Dick Lugt, Annerveenschekanaal
30. L.J. Maas, Eexterveenschekanaal
31. P. C. E. en B. van de Mey-Uljee, Annerveenschekanaal
32. M.P.B.A. BV, Achthuizen
33. Marlies Mulder, Den Bommel
34. TegenWind(molens) Netterden en omstreken, Netterden
35. Raoul van Onzenoort, Wageningen
36. Kees Le Pair, Nieuwegein
37. Caroline Planken, Vianen
38. Bart Ramaker, Eexterveen
39. David Raven, Meeden
40. Annemieke Reitsma, Schraard
41. Tonka Rookmaker, Tweede Exloërmond
42. H. Rubingh, undisclosed
43. Th. van Ruiten, Nieuwediep
44. F. Sen Bakker, Houten
45. Gudi Schouten, Achthuizen
46. Robert Sikkens, Gieterveen
47. Hajo Smit, Krommenie
48. Hans Tau, Coevorden
49. Luc Tieben, Annerveenschekanaal
50. W.A. Vette, Swifterbant
51. André Vroegindewey, Oude Tonge
52. Marlène de Vin, Piershil
53. Wijkraad Mosterdhof-Struikendoorn-de Weem, Westervoort
54. Stichting Windmolenklachten, Amsterdam
55. Marc van Wingaarden, Exmorra
56. Stichting Milieu, Wetenschap & Beleid, Delft