

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1436/04  
by Enric Morera Català (Verts/ALE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Ecological damage to the Serra Mariola (Valencian Autonomous Community)

The Valencian Generalitat has earmarked areas of major ecological value, likely to qualify as sites of Community interest, for the installation of 28 windmill park schemes. In zone 15 of the Valencian Windmill Plan, 6 windmill parks are scheduled, comprising 109 wind generators. Independent studies indicate that there is no optimum, strong and constant wind force (between 9 and 25 metres/2) in the areas chosen in the Serra Mariola (zone 15), to guarantee the profitability of these installations.

Thus in all European Union funding will be used to subsidise the ecological damage of areas of high environmental value; the goal of the companies which have won the building contracts (most of them involving Iberdrola), is to obtain Union funds.

Does the Commission not think that the Valencian Government should be required to take the necessary steps to make zone 15 a site of Community interest, as originally proposed by the Valencian Generalitat for the Serra de Maigmo-Serres de la Foia de Castalla, and integrate it into the European Union's Natura 2000 network?