

**Question for written answer E-002207/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Dominique Bilde (ID)

Subject: Impact of wind turbines on the environment and on quality of life

Under Directive 2009/28/EC of 23 April 2009 concerning renewable energy¹, a 20 % share of energy consumption was supposed to come from renewable sources. The proposal for a directive COM (2016) 767 had set this target at 27 %, to be achieved by 2030.

In metropolitan France, the share of renewable energy in the energy mix was 10.9 % in 2016, compared to 5.9 % in 2006. Wind energy accounted for only 7.1 % of primary production of renewable energy in 2016².

On 27 November 2018, the French President announced that wind energy production was going to be tripled by 2030³.

However, wind energy has a number of disadvantages, in addition to visual and noise pollution. For example, according to an article published in the Harvard Gazette on 4 October 2018, the energy produced from wind turbines, in relation to the amount of land used, has been overestimated. Furthermore, wind turbines apparently cause localised warming⁴. Wind energy could also endanger wildlife (birds). As far as local residents are concerned, wind turbines lead to a fall in the value of their land.

How does the Commission propose to balance the expansion of wind farms with the preservation of the environment and protection of health and quality of life?

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32009L0028>

² <https://www.ademe.fr/sites/default/files/assets/documents/datalab-35-cc-des-energies-renouvelables-edition-2018-mai2018-c.pdf>

³ <https://fr.reuters.com/article/frEuroRpt/idFRL8N1Y246L>

⁴ <https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2018/10/large-scale-wind-power-has-its-down-side/>