

**Question for written answer E-003167/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Infrasound produced by wind turbines

There is no directive or regulation on infrasound (low-frequency sound) produced by wind turbines, often referred to as wind farms. However, a number of countries have introduced guidelines or recommendations on distances between wind turbines and homes, although these are usually based on factors like noise, shadow flicker and visual impact, rather than just infrasound.

Infrasound from wind turbines has been a topic of discussion and research. Some studies suggest that infrasound may have an impact on people's health, while others have not found conclusive evidence of any impact. The topic remains controversial.

Specific setback distances (the distance between a wind turbine and housing or other building) vary from country to country and sometimes even between regions of the same country. Setback distances can take into account a number of factors, including noise levels or shadow flicker, which describes the flickering effect caused by the turbine blades periodically blocking the sun.

1. What is the Commission's position on this?
2. In light of the above, particularly possible noise levels and shadow flicker regularly blocking the sun, would the Commission say it makes sense to introduce a regulatory framework setting minimum limits?

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