

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0387/04
by Yves Butel (EDD)
to the Commission

Subject: Wind turbines

In France, the planned proliferation of wind turbines in rural and natural areas raises the question of whether they are compatible with the environment, public safety and the upkeep of traditional customs, including hunting.

It would appear that 'buffer zones' of 500 m to 1 km are being advocated, in which hunting, in particular, would be prohibited (in Germany, for example).

Are there examples in Europe of hunting practices that have been prohibited because of the presence of wind turbines? What reasons were given?

Has the Commission produced a study of the socio-cultural consequences and the consequences for the countryside of the European policy of promoting this form of energy?