

Director General J.nr. MST-5114-00074

**Protection Agency** 

Ref. IJ

CEO of EPAW, Mark Duchamp CEO of NA-PAW, Sheri Lange

email: save.the.eagles2@gmail.com

Dear Mark Duchamp and Sherri Lange,

In December last year you sent a health warning about wind turbine noise to the Danish Minister for the Environment, Ms. Ida Auken, as well as to me. On behalf of both of us I thank you for the enclosed information.

As you specifically mention the situation in Denmark, I shall take this opportunity to inform you about our experience with wind turbine noise in Denmark. We have had wind turbines since the mid-80'ies, and since 1991 we have rules about the noise at neighbouring dwellings in the form of statutory orders setting mandatory limits for the noise. At that time there were about 3000 turbines in Denmark. By and large the noise limits have been unchanged during the years, but in 2006 a supplementary noise limit for lower wind speeds was added to the regulation. By this New Year we have introduced another supplementary limit for the low frequency noise from wind turbines, because of the public concern about this matter.

The municipalities are responsible for supervision of the wind turbine noise limits, and most complaints about noise nuisance are handled directly by the municipalities. The Danish EPA receives only few complaints from citizens about wind turbine noise, compared to the number of complaints about noise from traffic and industry.

As to our knowledge, wind turbine noise has no different health effects from other types of noise. The Danish noise limits for wind turbines are comparable to our recommended noise limits for industrial noise, and they are lower than the recommended noise limits for traffic noise.

In your warning you mention that the Danish authorities refuse to hear the recommendations from Professor Henrik Møller of Aalborg University. I can inform you that the Danish EPA has had an extensive communication with Professor Henrik Møller, and that he informed us in a letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> September that the university had no possibility to contribute to our work on the new limits for low frequency noise from wind turbines.

Yours sincerely

Lars Hindkjær Director General