

Document for the Symposium "Wind Turbines and Health" in Ontario in October 2010

- In 1994 we moved with the 19 animals we had at that time to the countryside with the aim of living and working in peace and close to nature.

- We had been townfolk before but active friends of nature and intact, natural surroundings with a wide variety of biodiversity of grassland birds, water birds and songbirds, birds of prey, owls and bats was an important criterion for us in buying an old farm which was in need of extensive renovation work.

- 10 months after our move, in the middle of our expensive and time-consuming renovation work and garden planning aimed at making our grounds as nature-friendly as possible, wind turbines were erected between 320 and 420 metres from our house.

- The consequences for us were the following: Since 1995 we have to sleep with closed windows - even when it is extremely hot. Relaxation and peace in our garden, on our land and with our animals is impossible when the wind blows - whether from south-east, east or north-west we can scarcely sleep even with closed windows. Conversation inside the house in certain rooms is disturbed and since 1997-8 we have registered the first symptoms of illness such as Tinnitus (deep vibrating and high piping tones), raised blood pressure, ear pressure and serious sleep problems. This is getting worse all the time.

In 2001, Jutta noticed for the first time several small reddish-white ulcers in the mouth and asked several doctors about the diagnosis and its cause. No one could explain these ulcers. In 2007, she saw photos of these ulcers in the mouth and in the bronchi of patients in Portugal who live close to wind power plants. In the investigations Castelo Branco by Alves-Pereira one could read that these are typical symptoms of Vibro Acoustic Disease - VAD.

Actual addition – not found in the film: In December 2010 Marco noticed the same ulcers in his mouth!

- Shadowflicker: Between November and February the turbines throw a shadow in the mornings which gives us headaches, induces irritability and disturbs our concentration (we have our offices at home).

- The effect on our now 80 animals in our private welfare is severe: Our sheep have suffered many miscarriages and produced deformed lambs. The sheep and cows avoid their shelter and stable, both have a tin roof, even if it rains, snows or the sun is burning down on them. Threshold in dogs, cats and pot-bellied pigs decreases, the animals are restless. At times with lots of wind they are looking to rest always on the downwind side and also inside the house they look for the area farthest from the wind turbines. Many of our Canada and Nun geese breed as far away from the turbines as possible - although we had created several islands for this purpose in the middle of our lake. They return to us for feeding but prefer to sleep elsewhere. The ducks on the other hand do not seem to be affected by the wind turbines. But our turkeys and chickens change their sleeping quarters according to the wind direction.

The impact on the avifauna (wild birds and bats): In February 1995, after the wind turbines started operating, the majority of birds and bats disappeared. Birds which are sensitive breeders did not return after migration and the bats did not return from their winter quarters in the neighbourhood. Instead they disappeared permanently. - In order to work against this loss of wildlife we bought several hectares of land further away from the turbines in the summer of 1995 and renaturalized them. It took 5 years until the bird and bat population revived at a low level.

- Since 2001 the number of wind turbines in the neighbourhood has risen sharply. We can now see 113 turbines from our property at distances of between 320m and 15,5 km. The higher ones (up to 189m height) blink day and night. This is environmental plague during the day and we live in the middle of a blinking industry park in the night.

- Parallel with the increase in the wind turbines and the level of exposure through infrasonic, noise, shadowflicker and blinking, our medical symptoms have worsened.

- We both suffer from noise, particularly from vibrations, which pass through our bodies day and night, from sleep deprivation with frequent awakening and rising (3-5 hours of disrupted sleep per night) to insomnia, memory problems and from tinnitus. Marco hears 4 different tones, the worst of all being a deep and constant buzzing or droning. Until now none of the many consulted doctors have been able to cure this. Jutta hears 3 sounds, the worst is a beating noise in her left ear. And we are suffering from raising blood pressure, especially at medium wind speeds and wind from the southeast, east and northwest.

Actual addition – not found in the film: Jutta's hypertension raised dangerously in November 2010. Nowadays she regularly has to take antihypertensives. The nausea often becomes unbearable, so the use to take pharmaceuticals has become necessary.

Marco also suffers from tachycardia/ palpitations, concentration problems and irritability.

Actual addition – not found in the film: Since November 2010 Marco has been attacked by arterial fibrillations.

Jutta also suffers from vertigo and nausea when the wind blows, from a feeling of pressure and tightness in the chest which remembers to angina pectoris and periodically under cardiac arrhythmia, sometimes from ear pressure with sensations of blowing in the left ear and eye-blurring. Hospital treatment in 2005 and constant checks till the middle of 2006 by means of a mobile Electrocardiogram machine and by telemedicine revealed no organic heart problems. Blood investigations into Cortisol levels in 2010 reveal frequently raised levels, especially when the wind conditions are particularly detrimental.

Almost all these symptoms disappear, in our case, after 3-4 days if we are in regions without wind turbines, either on holiday or away on business. Only Marco's deep buzzing in the ears has become permanent.

We have made an interesting observation about the disturbance in our sleep patterns over the past few years. When we have time to watch TV, we often fall asleep out of exhaustion. We both find these naps more refreshing than our night sleep which is disturbed between twice and five times. We ask ourselves

whether the resonance caused by the turbines is counteracted by a contra resonance from the TV and thus neutralised. Investigations in this direction have already been made by experts.

-- Most physicians in Germany are only interested in the topic of sound disorders, if they are traffic-related noise impacts on the human organism. Negative impacts of wind turbines are mostly treated with skepticism, are denied or ignored.

A tale from here. A ear, throat and nose doctor has adorned his waiting room not with the usual popular magazines but with brochures advertising investment in wind turbines and solar energy. A colleague commented "thus he creates his tinnitus patients of the future!"

According to the Federal Ministry of Health in Germany and the country's Ministry of Health Schleswig-Holstein, infrasonic is emitted only by other sound sources, but in no case by wind turbines. A suggestion by the Robert Koch Institute in 2007 to launch a full investigation of the sound development based on wind turbines and their impact on the health of the residents has been ignored until today.

Our future prospects in Germany look grim since the Wind Lobby sits in all commissions and many politicians profit from the fear of the end of the world through global warming. German media play upon this fear and manipulate the spread of the holy doctrine that world and weather can be saved through windenergy, biofuels and photovoltaik. Those who do not share this opinion are mobbed, threatened and attacked. Social peace in areas with windpower is gravely undermined.

The success of the co-operation between all scholars and scientists in your Symposium in Ontario who are not biased or dogmatized is of world-wide importance and particularly for us in Germany. We are extremely grateful for your efforts on behalf of the many affected people all over the world.

Please help us and all others affected by Wind Turbine Syndrome to prove to politicians, the Media and all experts on the climatic catastrophe that they are ignoring the health of the rest of the population and endangering the stability of society throughout the world with their activities.

We wish you the best of success and a thousand times thank you that you listened to us.

With best regards from the Windwahnmarsh in Germany

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