## [BUNDESINITIATIVE] [Vent de Raison – Wind met Redelijkheid asbl-vzw]





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## Action before the General Court of the European Union to contest the conditions of introduction of wind turbines in the European Taxonomy

Four environmental Associations, <u>Fédération environnement durable</u> (**I**) and <u>Vent de</u> <u>Raison – Wind met Redelijkheid</u> (**I**), <u>Vent de Colère! – Fédération nationale</u> (**I**), <u>Vernunfkraft Bundesinitiative</u> (**I**) have started legal action for the annulment of the European Commission decision rejecting their request for internal review of the inclusion of wind power generation on the list of activities held as substantially beneficial to the environment (taxonomy of economic activities).

The Associations consider that the Union executive contravenes Union climate rules with this decision, citing in particular the fact that wind is an intermittent source of power generation and that the Commission has not conducted a quantification of the actual contribution of wind power generation to the reduction of greenhouse gases nor insured that the intermittency of wind power generation does not entail calling on power generation capacity using coal, lignite or any other solid fossil fuels.

The Associations argue that the actual contribution of wind power generation to fighting climate change is not established as no sufficiently precise technical examination was conducted, notably in the absence of a definition of "physical and non-physical solutions" allegedly substantially reducing climate risks.

The Associations also state that the deployment of hundreds of thousands of industrial turbines throughout of the territory of the Union leads to significant damage to land and marine environment. Such damages are not appropriately taken into account in contradiction to the principle of Do No Significant Harm (DNSH).

Also criticized separately the Union Taxonomy, which includes natural gas, is a set of rules defining criteria selecting economic activities which may be qualified as climate friendly and aiming to channel capital to sustainable activities for the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

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