

Aarhus Communication

Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

I. Information on correspondent submitting the communication

Name: Burgerforum Losser / Lies ter Haar

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Representing: Concerned citizens and environmental interests in Losser (NL), directly affected by wind energy developments near Bad Bentheim (DE)

II. Party concerned

Federal Republic of Germany

II. Facts of the communication

Bad Bentheim plans several large wind turbines (~250 m) along the Dutch border, near valuable nature and recreation areas (Oelemars, Zandbergen, Het Lutterzand). The area near De Lutte lies within the Meppen Treaty Zone (1824), requiring cross-border consultation. Previous projects were suspended due to this treaty, yet current plans ignore these obligations.

IV. Provisions of the Convention with which non-compliance is alleged

- **Article 4:** Access to environmental information
- **Article 5:** Collection and dissemination of environmental information
- **Article 6:** Public participation in decisions on specific activities
- **Article 9:** Access to justice

V. Nature of alleged non-compliance

1. Insufficient access to environmental information

- Only one announcement in a local Losser paper; documents in German, no Dutch summary, short comment period.
- Later stages, like the "Beschleunigungsgebiet," were not communicated.
- **Violation:** Articles 4 and 5

2. Lack of cross-border public participation

- No consultation or hearing for Dutch citizens; information not in Dutch; no invitations issued.
- **Violation:** Article 6 (paras. 2–4)

3. Absence of cross-border environmental impact assessment

- Impacts on Dutch territory (noise, shadow flicker, ecology, landscape) unassessed.
- Cumulative impacts with prior projects ignored; Meppen Treaty duties unmet.
- **Violation:** Article 6(6) and Meppen Treaty obligations

4. Lack of access to justice

- Dutch residents cannot appeal under German law; no practical means to enforce Aarhus rights.
- **Violation:** Article 9

VI. Use of domestic remedies

No remedies available for Dutch residents; Losser municipality has no standing in German procedures. Language and procedural barriers make domestic remedies ineffective.

VII. Use of other international procedures

None

VIII. Confidentiality

No request for confidentiality, but contact details of private individuals may be withheld if required.

IX. Supporting documentation

- [BFLandkreis26-4-25.pdf](#)
- [zienswijzen-bezwaar-windproject-achter-aarnink-9-11-2024](#)
- [bezwaarschrift-landkreis-grafschaft-bentheim-27-4-2025](#)
- [BF-25-8-25-windpr-Ned-en-Dtl.pdf](#)
- [zienswijze-plannen-niedersachsen-15-6-2025](#)
- [BF-zienswijze-De-Poppe-5-9-23.pdf](#)
- [Aktuelle Energieprojekte Stadt Bad Bentheim](#)
- [Bad Bentheim Sitzungsdokument 1](#)
- [Bad Bentheim Sitzungsdokument 2](#)
- [Bad Bentheim Sitzungsdokument 3](#)
- [Bad Bentheim Sitzungsdokument 4](#)
- [Naturschutz contra Windräder](#)
- [Besluit bouw windturbines uitgesteld](#)
- [Overijssel brief](#)

- Internationale verdragen MER nieuws

X. Signature

Lies ter Haar
Losser, 8 November 2025

XI. Sending the communication

Email: aarhus.compliance@un.org

If no acknowledgment in one week, send by registered mail to:

Secretary, Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
UNECE, Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland