

April, 2010

Protest speech

Demonstration held on 22 April, 2010 at 12:00 hours in Copenhagen

ROTATING MONUMENTS TO COMMEMORATE POLITICAL LEADERS WHO COLLECTIVELY LOST THEIR HEADS

“No one above The Parliament. And no one next to The Parliament”. This I was told by my history teacher who was also headmaster and politically active.

He could talk for hours about the Constitution of June 5, 1849, and about the transition from absolute monarchy to a democracy, where smallholders, fishermen, farmers, workers, and business managers came in from the fields and other working places to debate and make political decisions based on their detailed knowledge of the problems of their everyday lives and their working lives. The opinion was that they would know best where the shoe pinched.

Until today, this has been the guide to my view on political work. This is no longer the case. Today, we find influential bodies above The Parliament. Even above the Government. They are not visible like Christiansborg, the house of parliament. But make no mistake.

There are commercial market forces so strong and manipulating that they exert a profound pressure on The Parliament and, in actual fact, decide the course of events. This is the case with the wind power industry which, in a very short period of time, has become a worldwide, financial super power with an influence over hundreds of billions dollars.

The wind power industry has decided that they want a test centre for giant off-shore

turbines in order to keep Denmark in the yellow jersey when it comes to wind power. And it is shameful to watch how Danish ministers, civil servants and politicians all dance to the tune of the wind power lobbyists instead of thinking for themselves.

“Do politicians never look outside the windows of their centrally-heated offices to see how often the wind is not blowing?” It’s not me asking that question but Christopher Booker, journalist and writer, in a column in the British newspaper Daily Telegraph on July 15, 2009. He continues:

“If you still haven’t made your mind up about wind power, just consider some of the inescapable facts – facts which the Government and the wind industry do their best to hide from us all.

So far we have spent billions of pounds on building just over 2000 wind turbines – and yet they contribute bare one per cent of all the electricity that we need.

The combined output of all those 2000 turbines put together, averaging 700 megawatts, is less than that of a single medium-sized conventional power station”

Also in Denmark such information is carefully hidden from those paying the bill. But the fact is:

Turbines generate no electricity either when it’s blowing too little or when it’s blowing too hard, nor when it’s too cold. This is a crucial weakness of wind power. Production of electricity will not take place 24 hours for 365 days every year. In other words, wind power is not a reliable supplier of electricity. Therefore it’s an illusion of historical dimensions that wind power will be a meaningful energy source of the future.

In itself, it’s a beautiful and enchanting idea that we can cover our entire need for electricity from the wind, simply by installing propellers on top of high towers. Making wind power a religious issue has been successful and the industry is in full

swing transforming Europe, from Lapland in the north to Gibraltar in the south, into one large compact industrial area, and not even national parks are left off.

The wind power industry plans to build wind turbines in all places where it will be allowed, even in cities, disregarding the considerable inconveniences for neighbours, including noise, deep shadows, stroboscopic light effects, and depreciation of their real estate values. Complaints from people, who see their quality of life ruined, are systematically neglected by the authorities.

In an appeal to WHO, Barbara Ashbee from Canada writes:

“I am writing today to urge you to please help with an ongoing world health problem. It is painful to watch the continuing distress and disturbance being forced on families worldwide by industrial wind turbine installations being situated too close to homes. There are a multitude of families who are suffering serious adverse health effects and yet governments continue to forge ahead with new wind farms, leaving those affected suffering in their homes without any assistance. Many families have had to abandon their homes. I cannot emphasize enough the pain and the hurt felt by victims when they are ignored and even ridiculed by government officials and proponents.”

The picture gets more clear when you look on the worldwide development of wind-power. Commercial interests are so great that it is a sheer illusion to believe that the interests of the citizens will be the primary concern of our elected representatives.

In continuation of colonialism, imperialism, communism and other political movements whose names include -ism, we now have **wind power-ism**. It is just as demagogic, just as totalitarian, and just as oppressive and ruthless. And it tries everything to reach the goal, particularly the use of academics to do research and publish “scientific” reports supporting the expansion. They are being paid to offer their advice as to how best to impose windfarms on people against their will.

In the old days, quack doctors had a saying: Frighten people to death and they are ready to buy anything.

The wind power-ism uses this proverb as its own and profits from the fear for climate change to further its interests in an almost symbiotic teamwork with political parties. The wind power-ism makes use of a massive, sophisticated and determined lobbyism reaching far into environmental organizations like Greenpeace. With Facebook campaigns Greenpeace for example act in the interest of the wind power-ism. But the wind power-ism also sits heavily on other green organizations and societies who were supposed to protect nature.

I wish to put this in perspective by quoting the American president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, who on April 29, 1938 said when addressing a “Congress on Curbing Monopolies”:

“The liberty of a democracy is not safe if the people tolerate the growth of private power to a point where it becomes stronger than their democratic state itself. That, in its essence, is facism – ownership of government by an individual, by a group or any controlling private power”

The question is whether the wind power-ism has brought us to this point. Nevertheless, it's about time that the brightest and most pensive among the popularly elected wake up and start thinking for themselves. What is happening with wind energy is a warning signal to a democracy's health condition. All things considered, a democracy is founded on disagreement and the dynamics of the discussion of opposite views. Only totalitarian states muster a 95 per cent unity.

“Wind farms will be a monument to an age when our leaders collectively went off their heads”, says Christopher Booker.

The European Platform against Windfarms, including 401 organizations, strongly dissociate ourselves from such plans They are an absurdity. If realized, the test

centre will be a monument for Danish politicians who lost their heads collectively and accepted that today we have bodies above The Parliament.

In Estinnes, Hainaut in Belgium, the world's highest wind turbines, the total height is 200 metres, have been installed, just 700 metres from people's homes. The noise is so loud that people are already seriously disturbed by these turbines....

..... it's about time that someone puts down his foot and cries ENOUGH ALREADY.

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Journalist

Spokesman in Scandinavia and the Baltic States for

EPAW - European Platform against Windfarms