

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party
for the South East of England

Commissioner Dimas
DG Environment
The European Commission
200 Rue de la Loi
B1049 Brussels
Belgium

June 9th 2008

Dear Commissioner,

The Kaliakra headland in Bulgaria forms part of Via Pontica, Europe's second largest bird migratory flyway. Every autumn a considerable number of soaring birds, including 29,000 storks, pelicans and cranes and more than 3000 birds of prey, pass over Kaliakra, many stopping there to feed or roost. Between December and March water birds such as geese over winter in Kaliakra. The territory also holds the last big and comparatively well preserved steppe habitat in Dobrudzha, supporting 310 bird species, 106 of which are of European conservation concern.

Yet, despite the unique nature of the Kaliakra Important Bird Area, permission has been granted for a wind turbine to be installed there. I understand that several other such wind turbine proposals are also under consideration. The Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds has lodged an official appeal and I would like to take this opportunity to enquire whether the Commission believes that European law, namely the Habitats Directive, Birds Directive or Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, has been breached in granting planning permission for this wind turbine.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.