

The fact that in the shorter term the options appear to be more limited than expected in the National Spatial Strategy does not mean that we are letting go of our long-term ambition. We hereby also want to ensure that we will score better on the aforementioned aspects in the State of Utrecht in the long term. See also the response to opinions 016, 053, 056, 059, 076, 126, 189, 210, 236 under 4.2.2.1 wind energy in general.

**SP (States Provincial [Provinciale Staten]) resolution:** no reason for modification.

*opinion of: 062, 113*

**Summary:** Petitioners ask for new wind energy search locations to be included at the Everdingen junction. This location is also very suitable in landscape terms. The request in principle for this location was positively received by the municipality of Vianen and it will soon be submitted to the municipal council. The PSSV (Provincial Spatial Structural Vision [*Provinciale Ruimtelijke Structuurvisie*]) asks for support from the municipal administration and concrete elaboration via initiatives from the market. Both conditions apply at this location and it would be a shame for this to not be possible on the basis of provincial policy. (62) The possibilities for realising wind turbines are much less extensive in this PSSV than in the previous. On the basis of the province's previous wind energy policy, the petitioner (municipality of Vianen) has decided to cooperate in the construction of three wind turbines in the south-eastern cavity of the Everdingen junction. Considering the municipal support and a market player that wants to realise turbines here, the request is to include a possibility for wind energy for this location in the PSSV. Moreover, it is clearly indicated that wind turbines are being encouraged in urban areas, but this has not been concretely elaborated under the heading of 'activity'. (113)

**SP response:** In addition to specifically named locations, the Structural Vision 2005-2015 also provided well-defined search areas for a limited number of configurations. These search areas covered almost the entire rural area of the province, regardless of specific core qualities in each sub-area. We believe that, dependent on the sub-area and its core qualities, limited configurations can also have a major influence on the landscape and have therefore opted for specific search areas and, as a counterweight, areas without wind turbines. The broad search areas (regions) from the Structural Vision 2005-2015 provided too few tools for further deliberation. See also the response to opinions 016, 053, 056, 059, 076, 126, 189, 210, 236 above under 4.2.2.1 wind energy in general.

The location proposed by the municipality fits within our general vision for the acceptability of a location. It is located on the flank of landscapes, near major infrastructural works, near urbanisation and outside of nature values that already constitute an obstacle in advance. An environmental impact assessment at implementation level should provide certainty in this regard. An important component of our consideration is that, in addition to areas with turbines, there are also areas free from turbines. For this reason, not all of the theoretically possible areas, such as Everdingen, have been provided with search areas, but choices have been made, partially on the basis of feasibility. We consider the success rate of a search area near Everdingen to be higher than elsewhere within the Green Heart. By scrapping the other search areas in the Green Heart, we maintain the wish to develop areas with and areas without wind turbines. A complicating factor at the Vianen location is that it has been stipulated in the Green Heart Frontrunner that no new initiatives for wind energy locations will be included. However, this location can be seen as an alternative to the locations in the Green Heart that will now be scrapped, at Woerden, Abcoude and Breukelen. That is why we feel positive about this location. This positive spatial assessment does not mean that we are already

including this new location as a search location in the PSSV and PSR (Provincial Spatial Regulation [*Provinciale Ruimtelijke Verordening*])). After all, this concerns a substantial modification of the spatial policy in comparison to the Draft that was made available for inspection. Wind energy locations can certainly lead to public reactions. We have not been able to test to what extent there is sufficient public support for this location. Residents have not yet been able to express their opinions. We therefore propose starting a partial revision for this search location immediately after the PSSV/PSR has been adopted. Public support can be determined within that framework. In the PSSV, we will articulate the positive fundamental attitude and announce the procedure now proposed. We will also indicate the positioning of the location in the PSSV, by including an explanatory object on the map in the PSSV.