

# STAB

*For answers to technical questions in  
environmental cases in a level playing  
field*

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# Some facts

- 40 experts employed by STAB
- financed by the government (budget app. 5.4 million €/year)
- 200/250 reports/year (70% courts/30% council of state)
- process time negotiable but 3 months is average

# Independent and impartial

- Independence and impartiality is **guaranteed by the law** and the **governmental funding**: no need to work for parties
- Sole purpose of STAB is to supply the judiciary with the **technical expertise** in environmental and planning law cases
- We do so by **laying out all the facts** and make them **understandable** for judge and citizens within the boundaries of the case set by parties.
- STAB creates a **level playing field** for all parties by doing the research for the citizens position if there is none (**equality of arms**)

# Areas of Expertise

Bats  
Wind turbines  
Hydromorphology  
Foundations  
External safety  
Chemical industry  
Trees  
Acoustics  
Cultural history  
Fire protection  
Vibration nuisance  
Geodesy  
Urban planning  
Ammonia emissions  
Nitrogen deposition  
Traffic volumes  
Dyke reinforcement  
Immission test  
Parking pressure  
Aircleaning units  
Habitat test  
Radiation  
Shadow/wind effects  
Aquatic ecology  
Land use  
Taxation  
Dangerous waste materials

# We offer

## **General information on**

- The legal framework; which regulation applies in this case to explain to the judge how we approached the case;
- Technical issues; describe the difference between a magnetic field zone for a new type of high voltage pole vs. the old type;
- Technical-legal context; to what extent are the most recent environmental-technical insights processed in a policy line.

# Also

## **Case specific information**

- To what findings does the appeal give cause?
- Does the planned waterpowerplant effect aquatic life and does that effect surpass the boundaries set by European law?
- Which of the four acoustic reports from the parties is correct on the effects of the intensified traffic movements due to a new highway?
- Describe the actual situation and the consequences of a new plan

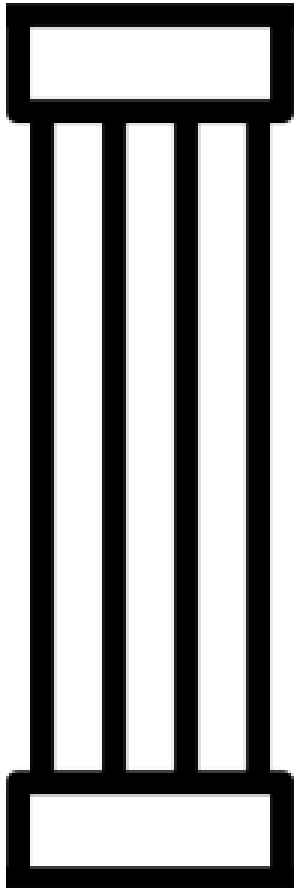
# Essential in the work of STAB

## ***Visit on site***

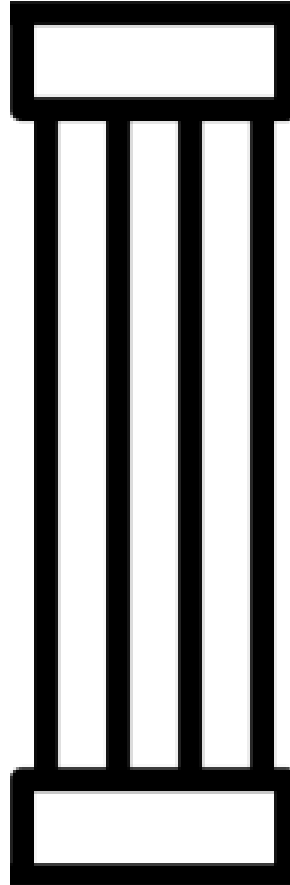
- Interview with **all parties** (license holder, local residents, administrative bodies and their representatives)
- Determine circumstances and facts to be observed
- *Citizens are taken seriously; they experience real attention from the judge through the visit from STAB*

# Quality Control

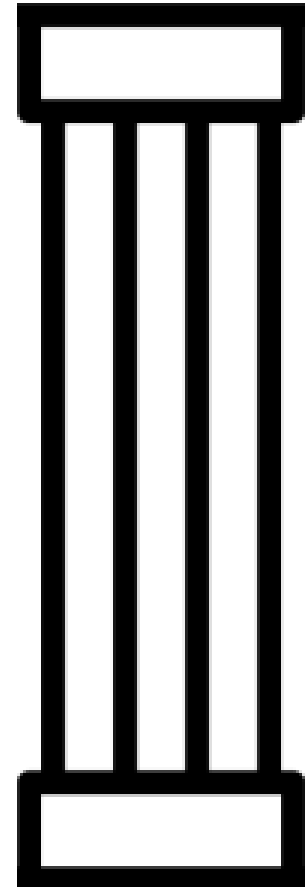
STAB Academy  
&  
CPD



Combinations of Experts



Peer review, external review  
and evaluation with courts





# Transparency

- Code of conduct
- Background of experts is found on website STAB (training, specialization, track knowledge) with additional functions of experts (full disclosure statement)
- Registration in judicial experts register (LRGD)
- Regular external reviews (External Review Committee) and evaluation with the courts
- A think tank helps STAB on dilemma's

Thank you for your attention