

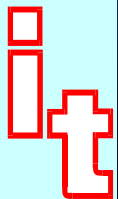


# Planning issues: UK, France, Netherlands

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26<sup>th</sup> October 2006



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# Presentation plan

- The main planning constraints
  - UK
  - France
  - Netherlands
- Similarities and differences
- What seems to be most urgent?

# The main Planning issues

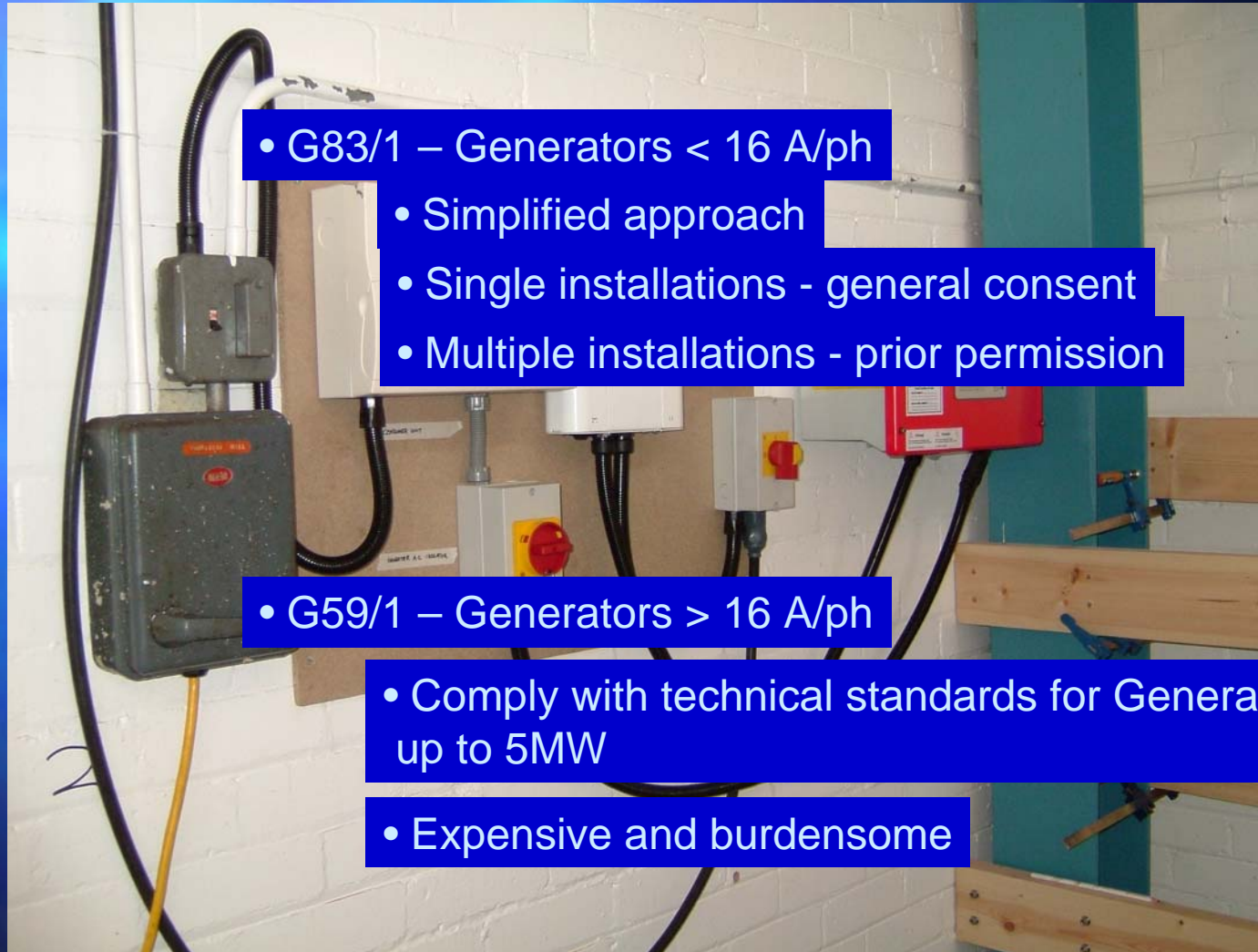
# Wind turbines

- Most prominent issue = problems with gaining planning permission
- Areas identified as problems included:
  - Visual issues
  - Noise
  - Structural concerns
  - Cost
  - Impacts on birds
  - Reliability of wind and therefore energy
  - Public perception
  - Energy storage

# UK main issues

- Planning permission
  - Visual appearance / impact
  - Land use
  - Noise: background or absolute?
  - Flicker
  - Vibration and structural issues
- Grid connection
- Health and Safety

# Grid connection: G83 & G59



# UK Planning Issues

- 37% of installations experienced problems in the planning stage
- Planning guidelines are needed for small wind turbines
- Stronger messages are needed in policy and planning documents highlighting the environmental benefits

# France

- Noise pollution
  - Laws on noise pollution state that urban noise is defined by difference to background noise
  - Day time (7AM to 10PM): the emergence permitted is +5 dB(A)
  - Night time (10PM to 7 AM): the emergence permitted is +3dB(A)
  - French legislation appears inadequate
- Flicker
  - Very Infrequent but still a question
  - Currently, no regulation is applied concerning stroboscopic flicker in France.



# France

- Grid connection
  - Complex
  - Time-consuming
- Property issues:
  - Wind turbines can not overhang any neighbouring property without the authorisation of the owner. The overhanging of the public domain is submitted to an authorisation of public domain occupation.

# The Netherlands

- The permit procedure is at this moment too complex
- Different regulations are contradictory
- Also need environmental permit
- Local authorities:
  - do not know how to use existing legislation
  - give different interpretations to the legal framework. This leads to different requirements regarding the permit procedures per municipality = confusion

# Netherlands

- Safety
- Noise and vibrations
- BUT
- At this moment there are no official criteria, no standards, no measuring and control systems for these issues in the Netherlands.
- No independent testing
- Visual attractiveness also depends on a personal experience, it can not be measured

# Conclusions

- Largely similar issues:
  - Inadequate / unclear / complex legislation
  - Confusion / inaction at local level
- Noise, vibration, flicker
- Safety
- Grid connection

# Needed

- Independent testing and standards
- Guidelines for local authorities
- Clearer / simplified legislation on permits and grid connection