Statement of the OPERA group on the cohabitation between weather radars and wind turbines

Adopted at the 16th meeting of the OPERA Programme on 18-20 October 2006 and by the 2nd EIG EUMETNET Assembly of members on 3-4 November 2009.

The OPERA group of EUMETNET:

- Considering the studies showing that the impact of wind turbines on weather radars are of three main types :
 - beam blocking
 - clutter
 - Doppler mode
- Considering the experience of cohabitation of European Meteorological Services, in particular Danish Meteorological Institute (DMI), Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD), National Institute of Meteorology of Spain (INM), Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), Météo-France and UK Metoffice,
- Considering that the most critical impact of wind turbines concerns the Doppler mode,

State:

- 1) that no wind turbine should be deployed at a range from radar antenna lower than:
 - 5 kilometers for C-band radars
 - 10 kilometers for S-band radars
- 2) that projects of wind parks should be submitted to an impact study when they concern ranges lower than:
 - 20 kilometers for C-band radars
 - 30 kilometers for S-band radars