



“CREATIVE SOLUTIONS ARE NECESSARY TO ACCELERATE THE ENERGY TRANSITION.”

Tjisse Stelpstra

Member of the provincial executive of Drenthe

“Citizens and businesses in Drenthe come up with plenty of sustainable initiatives. There is a large intrinsic desire to contribute to the climate. In addition, we also want to execute the Regional Energy Strategy. If it then turns out that the electricity grid is full, this is very disappointing. The fact that the regions want to proceed at a fast pace has been greatly underestimated.

With Enexis, we have frequently discussed the legal and other obstacles to connecting sustainable projects as well as possible solutions. It is good to see that Enexis acknowledges that this problem exists. We are starting to understand each other better and better and are discovering how we can help each other. More rules and regulations often form an obstacle for a solution. In the Netherlands, it seems as if we are working with outdated instructions. The central government must do something about this quickly. Creative solutions are necessary to accelerate the energy transition. Enexis should stand up for this.

In Emmen-Weerdinge, we are now making use of the spare capacity of the grid. A positive development. As a result, two large projects can now be connected. And still, we call for more capacity in the electricity grid to make smaller projects of citizens or small and medium-sized businesses possible. Everyone is contributing in Drenthe: we have asked citizens to come up with smart solutions for grid congestion. Because, we need everybody's help in the energy transition.

Together with market parties and colleague grid operators, Enexis lobbied to make use of spare capacity in the high-voltage grid for renewable generation. And with success: an order in council was passed. The high-voltage station in Emmen-Weerdinge was adapted technically by TenneT and Enexis in 2021. Marco Poorts, Grid Coordination Manager at Enexis: “We are very pleased with this creative, technical and regulatory solution. In this manner, we can connect a number of customers again with renewable generation, without negative consequences for existing customers.”