



(Translation)

### **A wind turbine burns near Uelzen, near Hamburg in Germany**

The fire caused damage of 750,000 euros and is assumed to have been caused by a technical fault, according to police reports.

The turbine generator could be seen widely as a huge burning torch. A mixture of oil, lubricants and plastics fed the fire which also fell burning from the steel structure. The Lueneburg police found the engine room of the 100m high turbine in flames on Tuesday evening. Then the flames ate their way up to the rotor, which then stood for hours in flames.

The fire department cordoned off the area and let the fire burn. "Wind turbines are extremely difficult to access," said a spokesman for the Hamburg fire brigade. "The ladders do not reach up to the turbine and hoses cannot reach such heights because of their weight. In addition, there is a risk that the structure of the turbine hub has been weakened and the wind generator may collapse."

The plant was not operating when it caught fire but was recently serviced. The police are now determining whether this work was the cause of the subsequent disaster.

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