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CAUSE 2015

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Reykjavik, Iceland to Hamburg Germany

With a flight set to depart the Keflavik airport at 7:40 A.M. for Amsterdam, our group was to be out our hostel at 5:30 A.M. at the latest. Our host woke up early to serve us a hearty Icelandic breakfast of cheese, meat, biscuits, fruit, hard boiled eggs etc. The size of Iceland's largest airport gives an idea of the size of the country itself. There was no seating available in the terminal, so half of our group ended up sitting on the floor waiting to board the flight. We arrived in Amsterdam around 12:30 P.M., where we recollected and picked up the vans that we go to know very well over the next week and a half. The landscape of Holland resembles that of green farmland one might see in the Western U.S. Fields with livestock, especially sheep, made a common appearance in our drive. As pictured below, we encountered fields of golden rapeseed, which is used to produce products such as vegetable oil, animal feed and is even



refined for its consumption as a biofuel.



En route to Hamburg, we noticed the concentration of onshore wind turbines increase as we traveled from Amsterdam to northern Germany. The strategy of harnessing the wind's energy to generate power has been present in the Netherlands and Germany since the inceptions of the countries. We saw historic windmills that were once used to drain the wetlands, saw logs for building, grind grain for food, and other industrial purposes. Next to these windmills stood the modern wind turbines that we are accustomed to seeing in America. The turbines in Germany now have a propensity to generate around 8% of Germany's total electricity with about 29,000 MW of power. In the Netherlands, the Dutch are working to satisfy their electricity needs with 14% wind power. They currently generate around 2,900 MW of power from their installed and operational wind turbines.



We took our driving break in Holland at a grocery store, where hunger had overcome some of the group to the point where they were not sure if what they were eating was uncooked meat, or meat at all on sandwiches. We reached Hamburg, Germany after several hours of driving and saw different faces of the city where the Beatles began their career a long time ago.