Creating Landscapes for wind energy with local support

Ghent, 28 September 2016
Creating landscapes for windenergy

1. A framework was needed...
2. Two plans: Eeklo-Maldegem and E40
   - Study of the landscape
   - Environmental study
   - Two spatial plans
3. On speaking terms with windfirms!
4. Creating envolvement = creating value 😊
1. A framework for wind energy

Potential locations

Positive criteria

Negative criteria

Potential locations

Structuring landscapes

with limitations

without limitations

Advies INBO
Advies luchtvaart
Study of the landscape Eeklo-Maldegem

**Lineair scenario**

**Rasterscenario**
Study of the landscape E40

Different scenario’s, different models

On industrial areas of in open space

In a forest, on a hill, on a field,
Environmental study

Framework

Buffer to houses

Minimal distance

Maximum windenergy

Environmental impact on a theoretical basis
Environmental study

**Maximum for noise**

Max. 8u in a year and max. 30min in a day

**Maximum for umbra**

necessary stillstand module

Veiligheidsstudie verplicht bij elke projectaanvraag voor windturbines.

Procoro nadrukt belang van **adequaat handhavingsbeleid** => gemakkelijk en toegankelijk meldpunt, opgericht en operationeel gehouden door Provinciebestuur
Two spatial plans

- Area for wind turbines (red)
- ‘Effected’ area (800m)
- Area where wind turbines are forbidden (yellow)

Note!
*Principe of concentration en contrast created envolvement, because it became clear where the turbines were coming, and where not!*
Two spatial plans

- Aalter
- Hansbeke
- Zwijnaarde
- Eeklo-Maldegem-Kaprijke
- Melle
- St. Lievens-Houtem
- Erembodegem
2. On speaking terms...
We agreed on…

1. We started giving information about our intention and the process of planning locations for windenergy.
2. We asked for a ‘stand still’ in the area.
3. We asked them to be transparant about projects that they planned in the area => one vision/project.
4. We asked them to participate in fund for the environment and to create the opportunity for locals en local authorities to become owner of the project (envolvement!).
We agreed on…

5. We asked them to do a common environmental screening.

6. Now we ask them to ask the authorization at the same time (clarity of the total project area)...

7. And to have a common ‘help desk’, common communication, etc.

Coöperative attitude to have as much energy as possible in the area for windturbines
3. Creating involvement

1. Participation and transparent communication
2. Renewable energy scan
3. Towards a shared ownership..
4. Creating a fund to improve the environment (800m around the concentration zone)
Model against ‘nimby’

Input

- Shared ownership

Output

- Fund to improve the environment around the concentration zones (800m)

Spread of the benefits

- Actions for the environment
- Climate and energy objectives
- Transparent communication
3. Creating envolvement – Inspiration

1. Danish legislation, German windflow → succes of many local coöperatives. Flemish situation quite different however...

2. Windfirms way of working (offering money)

3. Talking to stakeholders, to citizens, local communities
   - “Chosen ones” but not in a bad way
   - Ties that bind (windturbines and surroundings)
   - Added value, not a bribe
Fund to improve the environment
Fund to improve the environment

• A fund sponsored from the benefits of the windenergy (windfirms):
  – Foundation ‘without interests’=> statutes
  – The neighbours decide which actions/projects can be sponsored in their environment (800 m).
  – The windfirms have a advising partner (with veto)
• A symbolic recognition of the diferente actors (windfirms, neigbours, farmers, etc)
• Lever towards an energylandscape with a long term vision!
Creating landscapes for wind energy

https://vimeo.com/180855610
4. Recommendations

- Concentration and contrast!
- Integral plan: spatial planning + engagement windfirms + participation and transparant communication with different actors
- The process takes time but leads to more wind turbines (EM: +20 wt; E40: +18)
- Neutral actor is important: *Oost-Vlaanderen Energielandscape*
- Toolkit Oost-Vlaanderen Energielandschap
5. What did we accomplish?

- Spatial plan Eeklo-Maldegem approved and in development
- Eeklo-Maldegem: environmental fund on its way
- Part of the windfarms engaged to direct participation (and others do their own version)
- Two new coöperatives
6. Contacts

Oost-Vlaanderen Energielandscape is looking for partners for (European) projects!

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