

ACCEPTABILITY OF NEW ENERGY TRANSITION INFRASTRUCTURES: A TRANSITION IMPOSED OR CHOSEN?

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The ESEC has been asked by the government to comment on the acceptability of implementing the energy transition. Replacing fossil fuels, which are currently imported, with

12.3 GW

OF SOLAR POWER installed in France at the end of 2021 (60.6% of the 2023 PPE target)

18.5 GW

OF ONSHORE WIND POWER

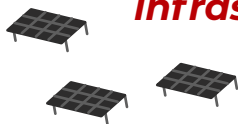
installed in France at the end of 2021 (76.6% of the 2023 PPE target)

zero-carbon energy produced in

France requires the development of new renewable energy infrastructures (wind, solar, methanisation, etc.). They are highly visible, change the landscape and balance between regions, and generate local disputes. Faced with the climate emergency and the issue of energy sovereignty, how can regions take ownership of the local implementation of the transition?



How to improve acceptability of new RE infrastructures?



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PROMOTE INFORMED EXPRESSION FOR EVERYONE PRIOR TO LOCAL PROJECTS AND THE NATIONAL ENERGY TRANSITION PROGRAMME, MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO:

- **objectify** national guidelines in order to legitimise local projects
- **implement** the energy transition **locally** in all its dimensions and make it easier for projects to be taken over
- **ensure the equitable sharing of** effort and benefits

The ESEC has made **23 recommendations** to organise national land-use planning guided by public interest, public service and social justice. This plan and the ensuing debate will act as levers for creating a collective and desirable narrative of the successful transition, specifying our lifestyles in 2030 and then 2050 (energy sobriety, mobility, housing, employment, etc.), ensuring projects' regional establishment is harmonious, combatting insecurity, sharing economic benefits and ensuring reciprocity agreements between regions producing RE and regions consuming RE.



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1 BE PART OF A CLEAR AND SHARED LAND-USE PLANNING PROCESS

- **Expand the government's role as strategist, regulator and planner for renewable energy via a national land-use planning programme for the mass development of renewable energy** and corresponding industrial sectors, taking into account external elements (landscapes, biodiversity, land take, imported metals, jobs, tax and economic repercussions) and uncertainties (trade balance, energy prices, etc.).
- **Organise a major national public debate** on the French energy-climate strategy (SFEC) to legitimise the energy transition choices with the public.
- **Better distribute the reduction of GHG emissions according to living standards** via the SFEC and allocate a share of the taxes on RE to combat fuel poverty.



2 ENCOURAGE LOCAL AND REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS, SUPPORT PROJECTS, RESTORE TRUST

- **Encourage voluntary local and regional consultations on climate, energy, and landscape** before projects start, involving elected representatives, the general public and stakeholders.
- **Accelerate the implementation of projects**, monitor the commitments of project developers, develop mediation, strengthen the resources of the Ministry for Ecological Transition and Ministry of Justice.
- **Make consultation** with project developers **systematic before RE projects** in order to anticipate and resolve future obstacles.



3 DEFINE A NEW SOCIAL AND REGIONAL CONTRACT BASED ON A BALANCED AND FAIR ECONOMIC MODEL

- **Reduce imbalances through regional reciprocity agreements** by clarifying in the (national and regional) multi-year energy programme (PPE) their contribution to the targets of the national low-carbon strategy (SNBC) and their energy solidarity.
- **Dedicate a share of the cost of RE projects to local companies and jobs**, rebalance the tax implications in relation to the impacts, diversify project financing, and encourage environmental co-benefits.
- **Strengthen education in the ecological transition and mobilise cultural and artistic approaches.**

