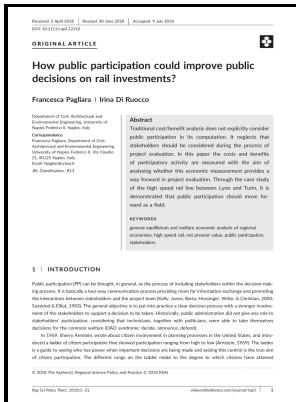


Public participation and energy policy decisions.

Political Ecology Research Group - Public Participation Guide: Introduction to Public Participation



Description:-

-Public participation and energy policy decisions.

-al-Maktabah al-thaqāfiyah, 259

Oxford reports -- no.6 Public participation and energy policy decisions.

Notes: Typescript.

This edition was published in 1978



Filesize: 55.97 MB

Tags: #Public #participation

The role of public participation in identifying stakeholder synergies in wind power project development: The case study of Ontario, Canada

However, mitigation is not always possible and the NPSs recognise that very little can be done to mitigate the LVI from wind farms.

Participation in Environmental Decision

But community benefits are far from straightforward. This information and a non-technical summary must be made available to the public within a reasonable time to provide them with opportunities to express their opinions before the development consent is granted. Indeed, mitigation measures were offered by the developer with respect to impact on ornithology, fish and marine mammals, water quality for shellfish, but they did not address SLVI and place-based values.

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In an environmental law context, Steele argues that, even in a deliberative perspective that emphasises the legitimizing function of a public debate, public participation presents a substantive, problem-solving capacity. This thesis argues that the policy and regulatory framework in this field remains anchored to a view of participation as an instrument to reduce objections and achieve public acceptance of decisions already made elsewhere, with little ability to influence the outcome. However, the consideration of mitigation measures and community benefits offers an interesting perspective from which to explore the conceptual nature of participation and the notion of acceptance in environmental decision-making.

Office of Public Participation (OPP)

As the provision of benefits is separate from the planning examination and the opinions expressed there, there is little scope for the fund to engage with opinions raised in that setting. Effective involvement results from a holistic set of pre- conditions, working best when informal non-statutory civil society networks are empowered to interact with formal statutory networks. PMCA is used to test technical options and choices, and the social acceptance of change and adaption strategies.

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However, it is primarily concerned with transferring decision-making to a local level, without fundamentally engaging with the conceptual nature of participation and the ways in which the public can influence decisions at that level.

Public participation in decision

Most of these rationalities have emerged in the authorisation process for the wind NSIPs that I analyse in this section: the Burbo Bank Extension Offshore Wind Farm in English territorial waters, and the Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm in North Wales.

Public participation in decision

By providing a platform for dialogue across expert knowledge, political power and lay public rationalities, the planning process could constitute a preferred forum for learning and participation. Working with, and integrating, diverse streams of information from multiple sources, sectors and disciplines forges better dialogues and results in more practical outcomes. The book is a valuable resource for academics in the field of energy planning and policymaking, as well as practitioners in energy governance, energy and urban planners and participation specialists.

Public participation

The enhancement of possibilities for public participation mechanisms in the context of energy projects might offer a solution. Community benefits schemes from wind energy infrastructure can create additional spaces for participation of local communities, outside the planning process.

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