

# The co-ordination of private and public interests regarding new energy infrastructure

## - research workshop in the Pathways project

In March 2009, Pathways researchers held a workshop on the themes: Policy processes and implementation, location problems and energy infrastructure, wind power and land use. This is workshop concluded the following strategy for the work around these subjects within Pathways.

### Key issues in policy implementation

Review lessons from research on facility siting and the planning and organization of infrastructure mega-projects; the interplay of politics and administration; and some key issues in policy implementation.

### The concept of “path dependency”

The concept of “path dependency” has been used in the policy literature to explain historical trajectories of “reform” or policy making-implementation, nested decision making and co-operation among institutional actors. Review and discussion of the concept of “path dependency”; how can this concept contribute to investigate the shaping of commitment and co-operation (or lack of)?

### “Governance”-networks

Discuss governance and the assumptions about the role of “governance”-networks, which imply a “need” for co-ordinated (co-operative) action. Empirical questions:

- How are networks (essential for implementation) formed in land use planning?
- What actors are included?
- How is collective commitment built and maintained?
- How is implementation planned?

### Aim

Analyze all these problems in the light of empirical findings regarding land use planning processes. Outline some basic



“From government to governance”. Making the public sector more effective ...

features of infrastructure facility planning in a policy and regulatory context.

### Study

Compare infrastructure mega-projects (e.g. railway planning) and energy planning (in case of wind farms) with regard to the role of the “public interest” and how this interest is weighed against other specific (sectorial) interests (conservation: biology, archeology, landscape et c). Systematically assess similarities/differences between these two kinds of planning.

### Wind power development

Energy planning such as wind power development is in contrast driven by private actors and the public interest must be continually argued for. The public interest is not intrinsic to the project. It is external and can (and is) often questioned by the County Board, the EPA or in the end the Government, who identifies conservation values that the project put at risk and comes to the conclusion that the public interest is too weak to motivate giving license to the project.

## Viktiga utgångspunkter

### ✓ Beslutsteori

kontextberoende, ”adaptiv” praktiskt rationalitet och naturligt beslutsfattande i realistiska miljöer

### ✓ Policyanalys

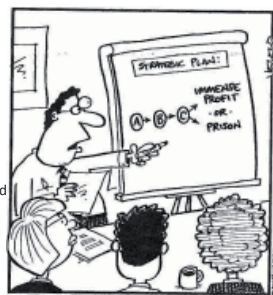
politisk-förvaltningsmässig inramning  
– makt, rättvisa, laglighet, förtroende, legitimitet

### ✓ Organisationsstudier

organisatorisk inramning  
– meningskapande, organisering och strukturering, led

### ✓ Riskforskning

individer, sociala, organisatoriska system  
– kunskaper, uppfattningar och värderingar



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A basic conflict between planned change and planned status quo

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