

Seashore Under Pressure: Sustainability Controversies in Western Norway Landscape and Seascape

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Key words: Coastal Zone Management; Spatial planning; wind power technology, regional and local resilience, sustainability technology, conflict, 'sustainability conflict'

SUMMARY

The aim of the paper is to explore the connection between regional and local protest and conflict, and the use of new cleantech and sustainability technology. The discussion will be based on empirical studies, and the study of controversies and conflicts of wind power technology in Western Norway.

In Norway, and particular in Western Norway, people live in small villages, cities or areas where landscape meets the seascape. The nature of the seashore is vulnerable, as the case for the seashore society. Today conflicts concern new sustainable technology is expanding.

In recent years the sustainability transition has made new opportunities in use of cleantech and sustainability technology. This has become a striking feature of European governance and policy. Paradoxically, this technology is often situated in the coastline and seashore, sometimes parallel to the old fossil, oil and gas industry. This is also the case of Western Norway.

Today conflicts are made into a crucial perspective to understand the political nature of the subject of surveyors and spatial planning. The goal of this paper will then be to discuss the concept of conflict, based on empirical studies and the study of controversies and conflicts in the area of wind power technology. Further, the paper will try to elaborate a new concept of 'sustainable conflict'; in attempt to provide surveyors and planners a tool in handling the complex question of contemporary land and water use.

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