

OPTIONS



OPTION A:

You proceed with the planning of these sites anyway, but you initiate a large PR campaign before large-scale implementation of the projects.

OPTION B:

Bow to pressure from local authorities and homeowners and move the permissible areas of turbine placement further offshore to placate citizen concerns.

OPTION C:

Players decide.

EVENT

In order to double the installed capacity of wind power in 8 years, the Government has identified 10 main areas around the country with the most generation potential. Unfortunately, many of the areas also have high concentrations of summer homes and high recreational value.

RECREATE OR GENERATE



OPTIONS



OPTION A:

Push through a special legislative measure that overrides existing planning and environmental law granting permission to build without the normal EIA review process.

OPTION B:

Look for alternative sites that are closer to urbanized areas.

OPTION C:

Proceed through the normal planning process, with the very high risk that significant noise and visual pollution will be revealed in the EIA review.

OPTION D:

Players decide.

EVENT

The wind industry presses for an on-shore test center designed to accommodate large (>6MW) wind turbines. The Climate Minister and Environment Minister jointly decide to locate the test center in an environmentally sensitive nature area.

BY LAND OR BY SEA?



OPTIONS



OPTION A:

Commission researchers to write a scientific review of the noise levels indoors in the affected areas, but use a standard of noise insulation that is found in less than 1.0% of all homes in the area.

OPTION B:

Create a fund to buy out affected homeowners in the area. Nevertheless this may set an expensive precedent.

OPTION C:

Change the law to lower the allowable threshold to 20dB, so that all future turbine installation projects will meet this standard. The turbine manufacturers claim this is technically impossible.

OPTION D:

Players decide.

EVENT

Noise emissions from large turbines are disturbing neighbors. Under existing EIA legislation, the allowable noise threshold is 30dB, but large numbers of citizens complain that the turbines make their lives unbearable due to the low sub-sonic vibrations. Opposition groups threaten to take the government to court if they do not act to lower the noise threshold.



OPTIONS



OPTION A:

Do you allow this to happen, even if it sets a precedent for future encroachment on areas of rich biodiversity?

OPTION B:

Start a public relations campaign to convince citizens that the future of renewable power depends on a new generation of large turbines.

OPTION C:

Work with the local authorities and NGOs to find a solution through negotiation.

OPTION D:

Players decide.

EVENT

Under existing law, large wind turbines are not allowed to be located in sensitive natural areas. However, the Government has decided to unilaterally alter the planning law to create a special exemption for building a test center.

NOT ALL LAWS ARE EQUAL



OPTIONS



OPTION A:

Accept the decision and create a special compensation trust to be funded by electricity generators and turbine manufacturers.

OPTION B:

Challenge the decision by the High Court, arguing that public interests override local individual concerns.

OPTION C:

Change the expropriation law to create a special exemption for renewable power projects.

OPTION D:

Players decide.

EVENT

The High Court finds that placing large turbines close to residential locations is a form of expropriation, allowing homeowners to claim compensatory damages.

NOT IN MY BACKYARD



OPTIONS



OPTION A:

Let the decision stand, since the subsidies are the only way to ensure that the energy providers build the wind farms.

OPTION B:

Lower the subsidy in response to industrial and residential power consumers' demands, risking the possibility that power generators will continue to build coal- and gas-fired plants instead of wind.

OPTION C:

Commission an academic panel to produce a report outlining the social, environmental, and economic benefits of wind power.

OPTION D:

Players decide.

EVENT

The leading electricity company secures a special deal with the Government that pays them twice the normal tariff for delivering wind power. Consumers and industrial power customers are upset that their energy bills will rise by 20% to pay for the subsidy.

NOT AT ANY COST



OPTIONS



OPTION A:

Raise fuel taxes on all fossil fuels, making natural gas more expensive relative to wind, solar, and hydropower.

OPTION B:

Encourage this development, since natural gas-fired generators are the only technically feasible option to provide back-up storage for intermittent supply of renewables.

OPTION C:

Players decide.

EVENT

Large reserves of natural gas are discovered in shale formations, making electricity from wind energy twice as expensive as that from gas-fired turbines.

POWER SHIFT



OPTIONS



OPTION A:

Work with environmental NGOs, local authorities, turbine manufacturers, and national government to try to find methods to lower bird deaths.

OPTION B:

Do nothing and let the issue go to the EU level, trusting that the Commission will not choose birds over economic growth and security of the energy supply.

OPTION C:

Players decide.

EVENT

The media uncover evidence that wind turbines are having adverse effects on threatened bird populations in the area. If nothing is done, the EU will step in to enforce measures to reduce bird deaths.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

