THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF THE CATALAN TERRITORY AGAINST CERTAIN RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

27/05/2022

STRUCTURE

- Current situation

- Case study

- Conclusions

CURRENT SITUATION

- State of climate emergency declared in Spain (2020).

- Recent regulation facilitates the implantation of new renewable energy projects.

- Projects are (strongly) concentrated in the provinces of Tarragona and Lleida.

- Strong opposition from certain sectors of the community.

- European Comission REPowerEU Plan.

CASE STUDY

- Three wind energy projects at Lleida province.

- **Project A** (49'5 MW, 9 wind turbines); **project B** (27'5 MW); and **project C** (49'5 MW, 9 wind turbines).

- Total of 23 wind turbines =126 MW.

- Projects at **non-developable** terrain.

- Need of the construction of **new roads**.

- One of the projects seems to incorporate a **high voltage line** that goes to Barcelona province.

CASE STUDY

- **Biodiversity potential impacts**. *Aquila fasciata* and *Aquila chrysaetos.*

- **Territorial planning and town planning incompatibilities**. Special protection ground and impossibility to develop new roads.

- **Legal problems**. Project fragmentation. High voltage line and procedural infringement.

CASE STUDY

- "Ponencia" (Board) of renewable energies.

- Project B and Project C emplacements were declared **non- viable**.

- Project A emplacement was declared **viable** under certain conditions.

- Decisive aspects according to the "Ponencia" (Board) of renewable energies.

CONCLUSIONS

- The study and consideration of social and environmental impacts is key.

- Proximity between energy projects and final destiny.

- The absence of study of town planning and legal compatibility in detail before presenting projects slows down energy transition.

- Renewable energies need a detailed planification if their deployment wants to be fair with all sectors of the community.