Monument conservation and the expansion of wind power: Not necessarily a contradiction

Dr. Thomas Gunzelmann
Bavarian State Office for the Preservation of Historical Monuments
Jakob Isaak von Ruisdael „View of Harlem (section)“
Rijksmuseum Amsterdam
Upper Middle Rhine Valley – UNESCO World Heritage

Wind power plants looking over the horizon line of this important cultural landscape
Important cultural landscapes in North Rhine-Westphalia
Important cultural landscapes on state level can be areas of exclusion for wind power.
Veste Coburg

Monument dominating the landscape
Veste Coburg

Area of visual and functional effectiveness
Monuments dominating the Landscape: Examples

- Medival city with immediate transition to the open landscape
- Benedictine monastery on top of the mountain
- Archaeological monument
- Isolated pilgrimage church in open landscape
Pilgrimage church „Gügel“ (Lkr. Bamberg) - Bavaria

Overlapping with wind power plants: distance 2,5 km
Landscape dominating monuments in Bavaria

Buffer zones?

Buffer zone 10 km

Buffer zone 5 km

Buffer zone 3 km

Conclusion: It is not possible to protect monuments with given protection areas.

Buffer zones can only be examination areas. The depreciation of the monument depends on each specific case.
Landscape dominating Monuments in Bavaria

Monuments combined with wind mills in the web-based Bavarian Atlas of Energy
Visualizing wind power plants – has to be honest!