

Paris Session 2022



Development of PVPP projects

Study Committee C3

Setting ambitious climate targets in the energy sector

Question 1.12

Nedim Turković, JP Elektroprivreda BiH d.d. Sarajevo, BiH



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- The authors discuss the process that has brought to the identification of territorial repurposing of coal mines into PV power plants or into combined energy sources (electricity, heating, cooling) for data centres. Both solutions contribute to the reduction of GHG, even if with different approaches and processes. Can the authors elaborate on the development of their respective projects? Have the plants been erected? What practical issues have been encountered? What experience can the audience learn out of these projects? Can other projects related to radical repurposes of degraded environment be described by others? What metrics can be identified to measure success of such projects?

Answer:

- In total, 6 PVPP projects were developed by EPBiH (3 were presented in the paper). All 6 projects are in the realization phase, but are in different stages. For one project, we are in a stage of public procurement for a turn-key service. We expect the plants to be completed within 18 months.
- Most issues encountered were the problems related to the permitting procedures. There was a need to change the existing spatial plans to allow the construction of PVVPs on abandoned coal mine areas. These projects are a contribution to just transition process in coal regions since they use land previously used by coal mines and also employs coal mine workers.
- Metrics such as electricity production (in GWh), saved emissions of CO₂ and other pollutants can be used to measure success of the project. One important metric is also the number of kept jobs, since the coal mines are planned to be closed.