BestGrid SuedLink

Cooperation NABU Lower Saxony and SuedLink

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SuedLink – the line for the energy transition

Basic facts about the HVDC line at a glance

- **Commissioning:** 2022
- **Transfer capacity:** 4 GW (2 GW per link)
- **Direct current technology**
- **Voltage level:** approx. 500 kV
- **Type of cable:** underground cable or overhead lines sections
our task:
approaching current European grid development projects in innovative ways

• Improve local public acceptance for grids by applying best practices in participation and transparency in pilot projects

• Speed up permitting procedures while respecting environmental protection standards in pilot projects

• Support implementation of best practices in future electricity grid “projects of common interest”
We chose a variety of activities to be studied by and shared with BESTGRID

- Communal info-marts in more than 30 locations along the proposed corridor addressing the overall population
- Info-marts that were partly facilitated by the NGO German Environmental Aid (DUH)
- Cooperation with NABU Lower-Saxony that involved both roundtables and field trips discussing early consideration of opportunities to improve the biotope network via SuedLink
Communication for SuedLink

Three successive communication levels

Information → Dialogue → Participation
Dialogue: Listening and taking time

Gathering knowledge, establishing trust, creating scope for manoeuvre
The dialogue with politics and civil society

Showing presence on the spot

- Personal discussions with national and regional MPs, local councillors and mayors
- Central information meetings, e.g. in Lower Saxony in cooperation with communal umbrella organisations
- Specialist discussions with public agencies in each federal state
- District assemblies, parliamentary breakfasts, round tables
- Participation in local events held by municipalities and interest groups, editorial briefings
Public participation

Enabling citizens to get involved, allowing compromises
Actice participation
March-June 2014: 6,000 visitors

**Niedersachsen:**
- 9 Infomärkte / 572 Formulare
  - 60 Formulare in Ahlerstedt
  - 60 Formulare in Hameln
  - 91 Formulare in Hildesheim
  - 77 Formulare in Burgwedel
  - 50 Formulare in Lehrte
  - 44 Formulare in Kirchlinteln
  - 73 Formulare in Walsrode
  - 68 Formulare in Wietze-Winsen
  - 49 Formulare in Hassendorf

**Schleswig-Holstein:**
- 2 Infomärkte / 84 Formulare
  - 68 Formulare in Horst
  - 16 Formulare in Wilster

**Nordrhein-Westfalen:**
- 4 Infomärkte / 199 Formulare
  - 56 Formulare in Warburg
  - 45 Formulare in Borgentreich
  - 44 Formulare in Brakel
  - 54 Formulare in Lügde / Rischenau

**Hessen:**
- 4 Infomärkte / 281 Formulare
  - 38 Formulare in Wolfhagen
  - 71 Formulare in Fritzlar
  - 83 Formulare in Petersberg
  - 89 Formulare in Kirchheim

**Bayern:**
- 3 Infomärkte / 158 Formulare
  - 42 Formulare in Wasserlosen
  - 65 Formulare in Elfershausen
  - 51 Formulare in Bad Brückenau
Already around 3,000 queries and suggestions
Pilot project C
NABU Lower Saxony and TenneT
New approaches for an ecologically optimized expansion of the grid

- **Goal:** New standards in planning and implementing transmission routes
- **Project region:** German low mountain region
- **Investigation:** Minimizing environmental impacts and facilitating positive effects on flora and fauna
internal and external criteria of cooperation in power line planning

- Internal: Justification to members
- Extern: Credibility as a "lawyer of nature"
- Cooperation does not restrict the rights → RGI (BestGrid)
- Chance of receiving changes
- → no fundamental "prevention campaign"
- Fears of citizens who do not come from the field of nature and species conservation
- members as citizens locally
- Health - fear of the future - value losses - quality of life
- Two site visits
- Early involvement of local environmental expertise
Two Round Table Events
- “Biotope linkage and ecological transmission line planning”
- “Nature conservation and technique – aims and implementation”
Expectation of cooperation

- Serious attempt finding solutions
- treatment of developing proposals
- Openness to stakeholders
- insight into the documentation
• Ecological network NATURA 2000 - early integration in the planning phase
• Summative Planning - Technical solutions - overhead lines and underground cables
• Width of power line corridor - legal requirements

• new planning SuedLink through underground cables 100%
• Still no „Antragskonferenzen“ – change of amendment
Thanks for your attention!

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