

Winds of destruction: A documentary project on wind power, Indigenous people and human security –case from Hällberget, Överkalix, Gällivare Forest Sámi Reindeer Herding area

Henrik Andersson, Gällivare Forest Sámi village



[Henrik Andersson showing a sign that states he has no right to be on his own traditional Sámi lands – due to wind power testing. Photo: Petri Storlöpare, 2015.]

Presentation of ongoing film project by and with Henrik Andersson, reindeer herder within the Gällivare Forest Sámi village and CEO of his own reindeer herding company. Forest Sámi reindeer herding culture has prospered here since at least the Iron Age. In view of climate change mitigation - what can Swedish state, the European Union (EU) and other state organisations as well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) learn from the knowledges and understandings of the Sámi reindeer herders? The film forms part of a supradisciplinary research and documentary project on sustainable power production, researching and documenting the subject matter from Sámi reindeer herding point of view, along with analyses of the supposedly climate friendly power production technologies.

Currently the Swedish government, with a massive support from environmentalists – individuals as well as NGOs, pushes for a “fossil free Sweden” and strongly promote windpower – in Sámi territories. Hydropower exploitation in the 20th century took place in the very same territories and destroyed huge parts of Sámi culture and tradition. Within the EU climate action policy, states are asked to support “renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and biomass to reach the green energy targets”. However, current designs of energy production are not green but destructive to lands and waters. What does it take to make Sámi voices turned into policies and actions, and to invest in non-harmful technical design?

By:

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