LOCATION THEORY BASED WIND ENERGY SYSTEM PLANNING

SENG SUE MEN

A project report submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the Degree of Master of Electrical Engineering

Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia

MAY 2011

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To my parents who inspired my life and who have been my role model for determination and sacrifice. To my sister and brothers, for the courage they have given me.

To my supervisor, Dr. Goh Hui Hwang, for his patience and support given throughout the duration of this study. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to him. This project report would have not been possible without his invaluable guidance.

To Mr Tie Sing Heng, for his unconditional support and love that has enabled me to complete the study.

Lastly, to my friends and course mates, for their help and guidance along the way.

ABSTRACT

Wind Energy is the one of the fastest growing renewable energy in the last two decades. Besides having the most rapid growth, wind energy has become a big part of the energy consumed globally. However, some of the key factors for a successful wind power project can be overlooked at times, leading to the failure of such projects and posing negative effects on its contribution. This project studies the key parameters that are crucial in the process of selecting potential location for optimal success in wind power planning at its initial stage. The aim is to build a model that can be generally applied during wind power planning. A multi-criteria decision making tool: Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) is implemented using Saaty scale ranging from 1-9 to form pairwise comparisons and evaluate the weightage of each criteria. The result shows the priorities of the parameters and their significance, indicating the order of which they should be carried out during planning process.



ABSTRACK

Tenaga angin adalah salah satu tenaga boleh diperbaharui yang pesat membangun sejak dua dekad yang lepas. Selain daripada pembangunan yang pesat, tenaga angin juga menjadi satu bahagian yang penting dalam penggunaan tenaga dunia. Namun demikian, terdapat faktor-faktor penting yang boleh menjayakan projek tenaga angin sering diabaikan, mengakibatkan kegagalan projek dan mendatangkan kesan negatif dalam sumbangannya. Projek ini mengkaji parameter yang penting dalam memilih lokasi yang berpotensi untuk kejayaan optimum dalam perancangan peringkat awal. Tujuan projek adalah membina satu model yang boleh digunakan secara umum semasa membuat perancangan projek tenaga angin. Satu kaedah membuat keputusan pelbagai kriteria (multi-criteria decision making tool): *Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)* dengan scala Saaty (Saaty scale) berjulat 1-9 digunnakan untuk membentuk bandingan berpasangan (pairwise comparisons) dan menilai pemberat setiap kriteria. Keputusan kajian menunjukkan susunan tertib parameter yang akan diambilkira semasa proses perancangan dijalankan mengikut keutamaan dan kepenting parameter tersebut.



CONTENT

	TITLE	i
	DECLARATION	ii
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
	ABSTRACT	iv
	CONTENT	vi
	LIST OF TABLES	viii
	LIST OF FIGURES	ix
	LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS	x
CHAPTER 1	INTRODUCTION	
	1.1 White Energy Today	1
	1.2 Problem Statement	4
	1.3 Thesis Objectives	5
	1.4 Thesis Outline	5
CHAPTER 2	WIND ENERGY	6
	2.1 Wind Energy Development	6
	2.2 Wind Policy Development	8
	2.3 Wind Resource Assessment	9
CHAPTER 3	MULTICRITERIA DECISION MAKING	16
	3.1 Analytic Hierarchy Process	16
	3.2 Pairwise Comparison and Fundamental Scale	18
	3.3 AHP Applications	20
CHAPTER 4	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	24
	4.1 Phase I : Information Gathering and Study	24
	4.2 Phase II : Parameter Filtering	26
	4.3 Phase III : Model Building	27
CHAPTER 5	RESULT & ANALYSIS	29
	5.1 Analysis	29

		5.1.1 Terrain	33
		5.1.2 Temperature	38
		5.1.3 Noise	41
		5.1.4 Grid	42
		5.1.5 Wind Potential	43
	5.2	Result	46
CHAPTER 6	CO	NCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	52
	6.1	Conclusion	52
	6.2	Recommendation	53
	REF	FERENCES	55

vii

LIST OF TABLES

3.1	The fundamental scale	19
3.2	Example of AHP pair-wise comparison	19
5.1	List of crucial parameter gathered and their scale of	
	importance	30
5.2	Records of 24 hour mean temperature for Kudat	32
5.3	Records of 24 hour mean MSL pressure for Kudat	32
5.4	Records of mean surface wind speed for Kudat	33
5.5	Revised Davenport roughness classification	35
5.6	Calculated roughness coefficient and roughness	35
	length for different terrain categories.	35
5.7	Difference in wind speed for different roughness	
	coefficient with $v_0 = 2.3m$	36
5.8	WPD of wind speed affected by different terrain	
	categories	36
5.9	WPD of wind speed affected by different terrain categories	
	when $v_0 = 6m$	37
5.10	Records of 24 Hour Mean Temperature at 80m	38
5.11	Estimated WPD with different air temperature	39
5.12	Estimated WPD with different air temperature II	40
5.13	Records of mean surface wind speed for Kudat	
	corrected to height at 80m	43
5.14	Frequency of monthly mean wind speed in Kudat over	
	10 years period	45
5.15	Calculation of ($V^3 *$ frequency probability)	46

LIST OF FIGURES

1.1	EU development of renewable energy in electricity	2
3.1	A three level AHP	17
3.2	AHP flow chart	20
3.3	AHP structural model of power lines maintenance	21
4.1	Flow of the methodology	28
5.1	Criteria and sub-criteria in wind farm site parameter	31
5.2	AHP model for Wind Farm Site Parameters	31
5.3	Satellite map of anemometer location in Kudat	34
5.4	Annual WPD produced at different terrain when $v_0=3$	34
	and $v_0=6$	37
5.5	Temperature vs. Changes in estimated annual WPD	40
5.6	Probability density function of wind speeds at 10m	
	height, Kingdom of Bahrain	44
5.7	Distribution of monthly mean wind speed for Kudat	
	over 10 years	45
5.8	Pair-wise comparison in Expert Choice for the	
	selected parameters	47
5.9	Priority ranking of the parameters selection in AHP	
	decision making	49
5.10	Priority ranking of Sub-criterion in AHP decision	
	making	50
5.11	Priority index for sub-criterion in AHP decision	
	making	51

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- *v*_o . Initial velocity
- v . Velocity
- h_o Initial height
- h Height
- α Roughness coefficient
- z_o _ Surface roughness length
- P_d Power density
- P Air density
- P Surface pressure
- R Specific gas content
- T_o Initial temperature
- T Temperature
- Σ Summation
- MSL Mean sea level
- AHP Analytic hierarchy process
- WPF Wind probability density Function
- WDP Wind power density



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Wind Energy Today

The push towards carbon emission free energy impacted significantly on production of renewable energy. Availability of wind as a free unlimited resource created high interest in the field which encourages research and development in the industry. The reason that wind power has growth in such tremendous pace among renewable energy is because wind technology has evolved significantly in the last two decades. Generation of electricity from wind has seen potential to reduce environmental impacts caused by hydrocarbon fuels. It is forecasted that wind power are able to reduce electricity prices due to its low marginal cost, phasing out more expensive power alternatives in the market (EWEA, 2010).

In 1997, Japan initiated the Kyoto Protocol after growing concerns of the effects from environment pollution. The aim of the protocol is to raise awareness of global warming issues and to reduce the emission of green house gases. By year 2010, the protocol was signed up by 191states (countries). Under the Kyoto protocol, countries are obligated to reduce and manage their green house gases according to ratified targets. Taking effects are the renewable energy policies established in countries setting wind energy production targets in short term and long term development. The European Union with a history of twenty years in wind industry has set a 20% wind energy production of total energy production by 2020 (EWEA, 2010). American Wind Energy Association calls for 25% of electricity to be produced from wind energy by 2025 (Saidur et al., 2010). From there, electricity generated by wind energy in the United States has been almost none in the 1980 to



more than 11MW in 2006 (NAP, 2007). China has set 15% of wind energy production by 2020 (NDRC, 2007). This has become the solid push that has fueled the rapid renewable energy development in the past decade.

The development of wind energy surpasses all other renewable sector as one of the world's biggest renewable energy output (Figure. 1.1). Furthermore, wind energy has chosen to be the focus of renewable energy development in the next few decades.

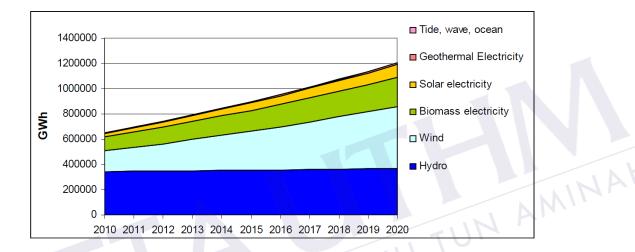


Figure 1.1: EU development of renewable energy in electricity (COM, 2011)



Although there has been vast development in this field, wind energy has yet to develop to its full potential. The improvement in technology has allowed wind farm projects to see positive effects on electricity generation. But due to the short history of wind energy, wind projects have been more or less in the experimental stage.

We are still vulnerable to the nature processes and face problems in the reliability of wind energy. Wind does not always come as fast or blows from the same direction all year long. Neither does it provide sufficient available energy output to be harnessed wherever it blows. It is because of this unique and complex characteristic of wind, all aspects concerning this field are still in developmental process. This project focused on the assessing the important parameters in the process of selecting potential site for optimal success in wind power planning at its initial stage.

In general, wind farm development can be divided into a few stages (Wizelius, 2007 & Burton, 2001):

- 1. Survey and initial site selection
- 2. Feasibility study
- 3. Preparation and Submission of planning application
- 4. Construction
- 5. Operation
- 6. Decommissioning

Survey and initial site selection is the foremost step in wind farm development. It concludes whether a location is suitable for wind energy development and also marks the starting point of wind energy project. Usually wind data are collected to produce an approximate indication of the wind energy output to confirm the potential site (Wizelius, 2007). Studies revealed that a minimum of one year wind data is required to effectively forecast the wind characteristic of a location (Jafarian, Soroudi.& Ehsan, 2008).

Usually, initial assessment also comprises of environmental considerations. After the assessment of a potential site, developer should be able to know:

- Distributions of hourly mean wind speeds and directions.
- The mean wind speed versus time pattern
- Mean air density, seasonal mean temperatures
- Terrain and surface roughness characteristics in the neighborhood
- Surrounding structures, and resident proximity
- Noise and visual impact
- Grid infrastructure and availability to site

1.1 Problem Statement

Current wind farm projects take substantial amount of time to realise that commonly lead to years before a wind turbine is erected. This is mainly contributed by the fact that all potential locations within the proposed area have to be analysed very carefully, given a large numbers of factors. The full individual studies of these locations are the reason behind the long planning duration. Each analysis of the relevant factors are evaluated and agreed upon before any decision is finalized. This is practiced for all wind farm projects. However, some of the key factors for a successful wind farm project can be overlooked at times, leading to the failure of such projects (Liao, Jochem, Zhang & Farid, 2010). It is best desired if a planning model is presented so that the planning process can be shorten as it will save cost and provide efficient energy sooner while still giving stress to important factors that should not be overlooked or neglected.

With the growing population of wind farms around the globe, potential locations for wind development are decreasing every year. Added with safety reasons, political and environmental issues, wind development policies are written with restrictions for wind farm development. Due to this, the theoretical potential of the exploitable wind energy are reduced drastically with the limited coastal, land and sea area, not to mention future development that might hinder wind farm progress. It is in the best interest that each investment in wind farm development will contribute to an efficient green energy as a worthy return. All of these goes down to the best suited wind farm site selection.

To date, no considerate number of models has been designed to cover the overall requirement of a wind farm planning. Majority of the models mainly focus on feasibility of wind energy penetration and wind characteristic pairing with wind turbine generators. All of these are only partial considerations of what should actually be included into a wind farm site selection progress. The development of such model allows fluent planning in wind farm project.



1.2 Objectives of the thesis

This project is directed towards creating a model aiming to prioritise the key parameters in assessing a wind site during initial planning stage. The objectives of this project are;

- To magnify the parameters which are of significant importance
- Identify and classify relevant parameters key parameter recognition and simplification
- Develop a criteria success model using multi-decision making model

1.3 Thesis Outline

This thesis consists of 6 chapters. The current chapter mainly presents the background, the objectives and significance of this study. It also provides the general development of wind farm and its benefiting contribution towards electricity production globally.

Chapter 2 consists of current methods used to assess the feasibility of a wind farm location. This includes all studies that are of relevance in the potential wind resources assessment.

Chapter 3 will detail about Multi-Criteria Decision Making: Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP). As this study implemented AHP in the process to produce the final result, procedures and method will be discussed here. Usage of AHP is very wide covering, hence, their numerous applications are also discussed here.

Chapter 4 discussed the methodology that is used for this study. It details the process that has actually been carried out for the short listing of parameters and the steps taken to build the AHP model for this study.

Chapter 5 details the analysis and result of the study. Each chosen parameter is assessed individually and related detailed calculation is executed to see their impact on energy production of a wind farm. Pair-wise comparison and the results are also discussed in this section.

Chapter 6 discusses and concludes the findings of this thesis, and reviews parameters of future development.



CHAPTER 2

WIND ENERGY

2.1 Wind Energy Development

Wind energy created a new trend for renewable energy three decades ago. The harnessing of wind energy dated back as far as a few centuries ago, with the creation of windmill. However, the true development of the wind technology didn't happen until the 1970's. This is partially contributed by the awareness of earth's diminishing natural resources and political pressure to find other inexhaustible alternatives. The situation peaked when the world was hit with the oil crisis in 1973 and the price of oil rocketed overnight globally. Severity of the condition was push further when the issues of pollution and over exploitation of the earth resources arise.

Being one of the world most successful renewable energy, the installations of wind farm around the globe is going at an astonishing rate. Large amount of money is being invested into research to develop better turbines in hopes that the energy can be efficiently produced and harvested in the most cost-efficient ways. Generation of electricity from wind has seen potential to reduce environmental impacts caused by hydrocarbon fuels. The growth of wind technology in the past two decades has evolved to a point where it can compete with conventional forms of power generations at good wind location. Furthermore, it is forecasted that wind power are able to reduce electricity prices due to its low marginal cost, phasing out more expensive power alternatives in the market (EWEA, 2009). Although much of the attention in wind energy production is given to the turbine technology, it is actually the location of the installation itself which will give the best return for the technology given.



Size of wind farms have become increasingly large; growing from single unit installations to hundreds of wind turbine generators units for a single wind farms. The capacity started from tens of kilowatts to the current largest onshore installation of few hundred megawatts. Such installation covers a vast area up to hundreds of square kilometers. The current largest onshore wind farm is Roscoe Wind Farm in United States at an installed capacity at 781.5MW with an area of 400km².

Europe has the longest history in wind power development and also holds the biggest share in wind energy at 53% (2009) globally. Although Denmark is the earliest country to harvest wind energy and incorporate it into their national grid, United States is currently holding the highest installed capacity globally. Electricity generated by wind energy in the 1980 has been almost none to more than 11MW in 2006 (National Research Council, 2007). The development of wind energy has surpasses all other renewable sector as one of the world's biggest renewable energy output. The slow development of wind projects seen in Denmark in the past few years is due to the saturated level of land usage. Good wind locations have already been occupied by previous wind energy projects and older wind turbines can only be put out of commissioning upon reaching contracted period.

In such case, new turbines with better technology and higher efficiency are put in place at the same location upon decommissioning of older turbines for better energy harvest. Such plan seemed good as good wind site will always be harvested for energy with increased efficiency. However, wind development can only see positive effects when it is installed at large capacity. With the increasing demand in electricity, such installations put wind energy development at a flat line. Lowering the cost of wind energy requires mass production of wind turbines to boost the market and this is achievable through large wind energy projects (Wizelius, 2006). Such trend can be seen from the current development of wind farm. By stating that, good location is crucial to expand wind energy harvest as much as possible. Exploitations of all potential sites are being carried out to enable optimum harnessing of wind energy and this requires proper planning even at an early stage.

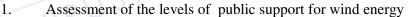


2.2 Wind Policy Development

Generally, development of all new technology and implementation requires the public support. This also similarly applies to installation of renewable wind energy in a country. After signing the Kyoto Protocol, policies and regulations are individually planned and formed to promote research and development of the energy. Many aspects are to be considered for the success of a wind project: technical and non-technical. The non-technical part involves environmental issues, population's concern and among all government policy restriction where as the technical part includes the wind turbine generator, and the entire electrical system requirement to support the wind project.

8

Loring's (2006) stated there is high level of general support for the development of wind energy. Still, in the process of determining new wind project applications, local authorities have to balance the needs and views of the local public with the broader national targets and guidance for renewable energy. In another study, Hindmarsh (2010) found that wind energy faced difficulty to develop in Australia due to lack of community engagement. This is mainly caused by social conflict surrounding wind farm location. Past experience shows that social acceptance is crucial for the successful development of wind energy. Social research has been widely carried out globally and was found to focus on three main points (EWEA, 2009);



2. Identification of and understanding the social response at the local level

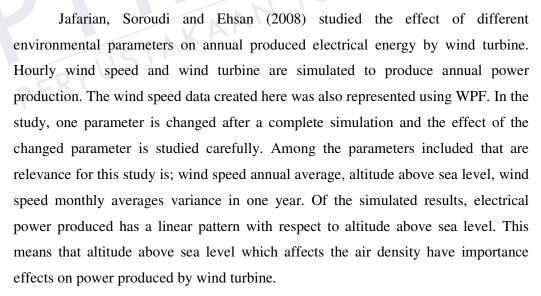
3. Analysis of the key issues involved in social acceptance by key stakeholders and policy makers

Hindmarsh's work proved that negative attitudes towards wind energy leads authority towards stricter regulation indirectly obstruct the progress of wind energy development at some places. Typically, policy making process involved the general public consultation from the beginning and the involvement continues until the commissioning stage of a wind farm. Policy developed typically categorised the type of land acceptable for wind energy development, limiting the shadow flicker and noise from wind turbine generator, benefits of the community from the project, feedin tariffs and et cetera.

2.3 Wind Resource Assessment

Throughout the years, numerous methods have been proposed and implemented to seek suitable wind site. Usually several years of wind data for a site is required but it is often expensive to collect such long term data and difficult for remote location. Analysis of recorded wind speed data has provided aid in estimating wind potential at site. Various methods have evolved and improved by researchers. In all, Weibull Probability Density Function (WPF) used to represent the cubic mean cube root of wind speed gives reliable estimation of wind power potential (Stannard & Bumby, 2006).

Doddamani and Jangamshetti (2008) used WPF in their study to match the potential location with most suitable wind turbine generator to find the best returns in terms of economy index. The success of a wind farm relates to how much energy is produced at a site, hence the parameters that they used in their study is important. Mainly focusing on the economic index, they utilised wind data gathered at site to produce the WPF to match with the capacity ratings and power curve of the wind turbine generator. The main focus here is only on the wind data manipulation: how they assess the energy produce and how the best match location-wind turbine is found.



Rehman, Halawani and Mohandes (2003) conducted another study to assess the wind power at twenty locations in the Kingdon of Saudi Arabia. Hourly wind speed data for period of 5.5 to 13 years were collected for all 20 locations in this study. This included mean, maximum, minimum values of wind speed, wind



direction, relative humidity and even cloud type. From the data, WPF curves were developed to analyse energy yield and wind turbine ratings were used to calculate annual energy yield with WPF curves. The cost of installation is also included as part of the study. Wind duration analysis is concluded as an important aspect to be considered while selecting a site for developing wind farm.

Rehman (2004) studied the unadjusted energy, gross energy specific yield and capacity factor to present energy output of a wind farm. Meteorological measurements for a period of 14 yrs were used for five locations at height of 10m. The study uses two different methods in combination with energy production curve of wind turbine to predict energy output for the locations. The site specific mean wind speed temperature and surface pressure are used as input in the methods. Gross energy and energy delivered to the distribution grid is calculated and taken into analysis. The study focused on the economic feasibility of the location according to the parameters studied and thus determined the suitable location,

From a different study, wind shear coefficients and its effect on energy production are analysed (Rehman & Al-Abbadi, 2005). Wind data for duration of three years were used in this study and the study focused primarily on the effects of wind shear factors on the energy production with contributing element such as air density values, measured air temperatures, and surface pressure. Geological and meteorological date were collected for different heights and analysed in the study to determine if there is any difference in the energy output. The study concluded that air density is an important parameter for wind power density calculation.

Rehman et al (2007) determined the wind energy potential for a remote village in Saudi Arabia using wind measurements. In their study, wind speeds were recorded at 20, 30 and 40m above ground level (AGL). Other meteorological parameters such as ambient temperature, pressure, relative humidity and global solar radiation were measured at 2m AGL. From the data, seasonal variation of wind speed and mean wind power density were tabulated. It is stated that wind speed increase with height, and wind shear coefficient at site is not constant and varied with season affecting energy production. Other parameter that directly affects the energy production estimates is the air density.

In another study, Rehman, Ahmad and Al-Hadhrami (2010) conducted a study on developing and assessing a wind farm at a location in Saudi Arabia with more complete coverage. Wind farm is usually remotely located from development



except for urban wind energy. The assessment of the proposed wind farm includes consideration of type of land surface, area required for the installation of wind turbines, wind turbine model selections, micro-sitting of wind turbines, noise contours of the wind turbines, wind power generated based on wind data collected, investment cost and also energy production and maintenance cost. The result of the study justified the location proposed in the study is feasible. Based on the point of high annual wind speed, the location is decided optimum for wind energy harnessing.

Gualtieri and Secci (2010) presented a work that studied the terrain effect on wind power production. The study used wind data of 6 years observation at two different heights in southern Italy. Parameters analysed included wind shear coefficients and roughness length. In the process, the European land classification has been employed to investigate the land use influence on studied parameters. Furthermore, temperatures and pressure surface measurements were used to compute specific air density and monthly variations. Wind resources have been analysed using WPF for energy yield. Comparisons were performed to assess the discrepancy of output at different heights. It is stated that detailed topography and land use at surroundings area are deemed to be necessary and important.

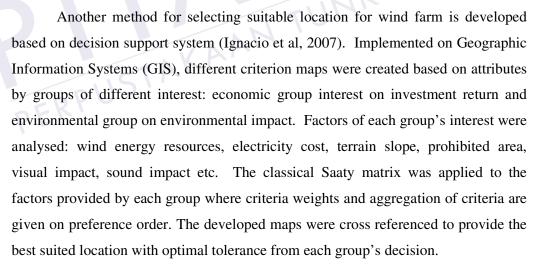
The analysis of terrain effect for selection of proper location for installment of wind power plants is carried out in 2010 by Ambia et al. Wind speed data at eight different sites were collected from the Meteorological Department of Bangladesh and were analysed at different height to select best possible season of the year proposing to utilise wind turbine effectively. Here, wind speed data were collected over a year and standard wind speed deviation were used to calculate wind speed at different height to eliminate low wind locations. The terrain effect of each the location is also analysed and they concluded that flat terrain is most desirable to increase energy yield for a wind farm.

Murakami, Mochida and Kato (2003) developed a local area wind prediction system for selecting suitable site for the wind turbines projects. The model aimed to provide an accurate prediction of the wind energy distribution for the installation of wind turbine at hilly or mountainous areas. Appropriate selection of suitable land is the focal point in this study. Meteorological conditions, wind tunnel tests, field observation, regional wind distributions, local area wind distribution were all the parameters collected to predict wind energy output. Data were analysed by computer simulation program developed in the study.



El-Shimy (2009) designed a model for optimal site matching of wind turbine generators based on a case study in Egypt. The model he proposed utilised an improved formulation for the capacity factor estimated based on WPF and an accurate model of wind turbine generator output power curves. For each candidate site, optimal wind turbine generators were determined by turbine performance index maximization and optimal output power curves. His model included the constraints of turbine heights considering the turbine impact on environmental issue. It focused mainly on the suitability of the wind energy at a specific site to a wind turbine generator. Parameters such as wind shear coefficient, long term wind speed data and wind turbine characteristics are crucial in the study.

Similarly, Hu and Cheng (2004) came up with performance evaluation of pairing between sites and current wind turbines generator on the market. The method used six parameters to evaluate the matching between turbine models and site characteristics. It estimated the energy output performance of the pairing and used the index as scale of suitability. WPF model of wind distribution, including shape and scale parameter, turbine cut-in speed, rated speed, cut-off speed and nominal power output were the parameters considered. Average power output of turbine-site pair is the obtained to determine the selection of location.



Again in 2008, a GIS based wind farm site selection method also is proposed by Bazzi and Fares in Lebanon. The design parameters consisted of wind data, urban areas, type of turbines used and feasible distance between wind turbines. Energy users are requested to defined the preferred areas and generated computer software is used to analyse the data.. Cost analysis is also computed by the program once all areas are defined.



A multi-criteria decision making model on strategic selection of wind farms was developed by Lee, Chen and He (2008). The concept of the model is based on Analytic Hierarchy Process by Saaty TL 'Fundamentals of analytic network processmultiple networks with Benefits, Opportunity, Costs and Risks' and it approaches the feasibility of the wind project by considering benefits, cost, opportunity and risks. Benefits refer to the wind availability and site advantage. Costs accounts wind turbine, connection and foundation. Risks include concept conflict, technical risks and uncertainty of future land development. Opportunity includes financial schemes, policy support etc. The scale or weigh in the model is divided into five levels which were predetermined and preference were provided by a dedicated team specially formed for the project planning consisting of experts from different sector. The design of the model provides a good platform for this project.

Azadeh, Ghaderi and Nasrollahi (2003) presented an integrated approach for location of wind plants by using Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA). This approach incorporated environmental circumstances and geographical location related to wind intensity. Different factors affecting the suitability of wind farm location is considered concurrently for optimum location identification. It introduced the most relevant parameter for wind plants: wind speed, quality of proper geological areas, quantity of proper topographical area, distance of power distribution network and cost of wind devices. Values of parameters were provided by the meteorological organization of Iran. The study included considerations of rural region and determined that distance from power distribution grid is a vital factor for a location. Result of the DEA model showed that wind speed is the most important parameter.

Mostafaeipou (2010) studied the feasibility of harnessing wind energy in the province of Yazd in Iran. Analysis was based upon wind speed data that is collected for duration of 13 years from 11 stations to assess wind potential at sites. The parameters studied included hourly measured wind speed data at 10m, 20 and 40m: using Power Law to extrapolate 10m height data to determine wind data at heights 20m and 40m. Also included in the analysis are the wind direction and roughness values for different cities. The study focused mainly on the availability of adequate wind speed to determine the suitability of a site.

In a similar study, wind persistence is studied to determine best site for a wind farm (Cancino-Solorzano, Gutierrez-Trashorras, & Xiberta-Bernat., 2010). Property of wind, specifically mean duration of wind speed within a defined interval



for a location, is the crucial parameter here. Wind speed data comprised of wind speed records of every 10min at the height of 10m for duration of five years in five locations. Roughness length and height were taken as part of the analysis to determine the result.

Wind energy potential at four locations in Ethiopia was assessed by Bekele and Palm (2010) to determine their feasibility. Data were compiled from different sources and analysed using computer software tool. Wind speeds are recorded 5 times daily for duration of four years. Results are based upon monthly average wind speed, WPF, wind speed cumulative density function and wind speed duration curve that is computed. Determination of potential site is indicated by wind speed profile created by the data.

Ucar and Balo (2009) developed a method to evaluate wind energy potential at a location using wind speed data. Wind characteristics were studied based on the data collected in six years for six locations in Turkey. Data were recorded at height of 10m and 30m AGL. Surface roughness, wind direction and height AGL were included as part of the considerations in the study. Using the tabulated data, WPF curve is created and annual energy output were calculated. Evaluation on best location was selected based on the highest energy production in combination with predetermined wind turbine model.

Furthermore in 2010, another study is conducted to assess the wind power potential for turbine installation in coastal areas of Turkey. Ucar and Balo used the wind direction, mean wind speed values, wind speeds, wind potential and frequency distribution to determine their results. Assessment also included the technical specification of wind turbines with different capacity to produce yearly energy output and capacity factor. Data of wind were recorded at height of 10m AGL. The final assessment of the study stated that height affect the wind speed characteristic and understanding of long term pattern of wind speed gives reliability in the power prediction.

Jowder (2008) conducted a study to find the optimum location-turbine selection for maximum wind power production. Hourly wind speed data for three years were collected at the height of 10m, 30m and 60m. Similar with Mostafaeipou, wind data of 30m and 60m were extrapolated from 10m data using Power Law. From there, WPD is plotted and statistically analysed to determine potential of wind power generation. Average annual wind power density was calculated in two different ways



and WPD showed more accurate prediction of average wind speed and average power density than graphical method.

Much of the studies conducted used different methods to assess and determine their findings. The results of these studies are not of great relevance. The main concentration is the parameters that were chosen to be examined in each study and the different methods executed to produce theirs results. Some of the studies have shown to overlap each other but this only proved that the parameters selected in their studies are proven to be crucial. The analysis and discussion of their results provides a better understanding of the importance of these parameters mentioned. The selection of the parameters in this study is based upon the information and knowledge gathered here.

REFERENCES

- Wikipedia. (2011). *Kyoto Protocol.* Retrieved February 20th, 2011, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kyoto_protocol
- Hulle, F.V. & Fichaux, N. (2010). Powering Europe : wind energy and electricity grid. Retrieved Jan, 2nd, 2011, from European Wind Energy Association : http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea_documents/documents/publications/report s/Grids_Report_2010.pdf
- Saidur, R., Islam, M.R., Rahim, N.A. & Solangi, K.H. (2010). A Review on Global Wind Energy Policy. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 14(2010), pp. 1744-1762.
- China Wind Power centre. *National Policy*. Retrieved March 20th, 2011, from http://www.cwpc.cn/cwpc/en/node/6548.
- Wizelius, T. (2007). *Developing Wind Power Projects-Theory and Practice*. Earthscan.
- Burton, T., Sharpe, D., Jenkins, N.&Bossanyi, E. (2001). *Wind Energy Handbook*. John Wiley& Sons, Ltd.
- European Wind Energy Association (2009). *Pure Power- Wind Energy Targets for* 2020 and 2030. Retrieved Dec, 20th, 2010, from European Wind Energy Association : http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea_documents/documents/publications/report s/Pure_Power_Full_Report.pdf
- The National Academy. (2007). *Environmental Impacts of Wind-Energy Projects*. The National Academy Press.
- Stannard, N.J. & Bumby, J.R. (2006). Energy Yield and Cost Analysis of Small Scale
 Wind Turbines. Retrieved Jan, 10th, 2011, from



http://homepage.ntlworld.com/julien.dourado/zeph_tech_web/academic_researc h/5_energy_yield+cost.pdf

- Doddamani, S. S. (2008). Economic index for selection of wind turbine Generator at a site. *IEEE International Conference Sustainable Energy Technologies* (ICSET), 2008. Retrieved November, 23rd, 2011, from doi: 10.1109/ICSET.2008.4747082
- Jafarian, M., Soroudi, A. & Ehsan, M.(2008). The effects of environmental parameters on wind turbine power PDF curve. 2008 Canadian Conference Electrical and Computer Engineering (CCECE), from doi: 10.1109/CCECE.2008.4564727
- Rehman, S., Halawani, T.O. & Mohandes, M. (2003). Wind Power Cost Assessment at Twenty Locations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. *Renewable Energy*, 28(2003), pp.573-583.
- Rehman, S. (2004). Prospects of Wind Farm Development in Saudi Arabia. *Renewable Energy*, 30(2005), pp. 447-463.
- Rehman, S. & Al-Abbadi, N M. (2005). Wind Shear Coefficients and Their Effects on Energy Production. *Energy Conversion and Management*, 46, pp.2578-2591.
- Rehman, S., El-Amin, I.M., Shaahid, S., Ahmad, A., Ahmad, F. & Thabit, T. (2007).
 Wind Measurements and Energy Potential for a Remote Village in Saudi Arabia. *IEEE PES Power Africa 2007 Conference*
- Rehman, S., Ahmad, A. A. & Al-Hadhrami, L. M. (2010). Development and economic assessment of a grid connected 20MW installed capacity wind farm. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 15, pp. 833-838.
- Gualtieri, G. & Secci, S. (2010). Wind shear coefficients, roughness length and energy yield over coastal locations in Southern Italy. *Renewable Energy*, *36*, pp. 1081-1094.



- Ambia, M.N., Shoeb, Md. A., Maruf, Md. N. I., Arefin, M.M.N. & Islam, Md. K. (2010). An Analysis of Selecting Proper Locations for Installment of Wind Power Plant Considering Terrain Effect. 2010 IEEE International Conference: Advanced Management Science (ICAMS), 2, pp. 192.
- Murakami, S., Mochida, A. & Kato, S. (2003). Development of Local Area Wind Prediction System for Selecting Suitable Site for Windmill. *Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial*, 91, pp 1759-1776.
- EL-Shimy, M. (2010). Optimal Site Matching of Wind Turbine Generator Case Study of the Gulf of Suez Region in Egypt. *Renewable Energy*, 35, pp. 1870-1878.
- Hu, S.H. & Jung-ho Cheng, J. H. (2007). Performance Evaluation of Pairing Between Sites and Wind Turbines. *Renewable Energy*, 32, pp.1934-1947
- Ignacio, J., Ramírez-Rosado, Eduardo García-Garrido, Alfredo, L., Fernández-Jiménez, Pedro J. Zorzano-Santamaría, Monteiro, C. & Miranda, V. (2008). Promotion of new wind farms based on a decision support system. *Renewable Energy*, 33, pp.558-566.
- Bazzi, A. M. & Fares, D. A. (2008). GIS-Based wind farm site selection in Lebanon.
 IEEE Electro/Information Technology (EIT) International Conference, 2008.
 Retrieved March, 2nd, 2011, from doi: 10.1109/EIT.2008.4554296
- Lee, A. H. I. Chen, H. H. & Kang, H. K. (2009). Multi-criteria decision making on strategic selection of wind farms. *Renewable Energy*, 34, pp.120-126.
- Mostafaeipour, A. (2010). Feasibility study of harnessing wind energy for turbine Installation in province of Yadz in Iran. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 14(2010), pp. 93-111.

- Cancino-Solorzano, Y., Gutierrez-Trashorras, A.J. & Xiberta-Bernat, J. (2010). Analytical methods for wind persistence : Their application in assisting the best site for a wind farm in the State of Veracruz, Mexico. *Renewable Energy*, 35(2010), pp. 2844-2852.
- Bekele, Getachew & Palm, Bjorn. (2008). Wind energy potential assessment at four typical locations in Ethiopia. *Applied Energy*, 86(2009), pp. 388-396.
- Ucar, A. & Balo, F. (2009). Evaluation of wind energy potential and electricity generation at six locations in Turkey. *Applied Energy*, 86(2009), pp.1864-1872.
- Ucar, A. & Balo, F. (2010). Assessment of wind power potential for turbine installation in coastal areas of Turkey. *Renewable and Sustainanle Energy Reviews*, 14(2010), pp.1901-1912.
- Jowder, F. A. L. (2009). Wind power analysis and site matching on wind Turbine generators in Kingdom of Bahrain. *Applied Energy*, 86(2009), pp. 538-545.
- Omkarprasad, S. V. & Sushil, K. (2004). Analytic Hierarchy Process : An Overview of Applications. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 169(2006), pp. 1-29.
- Forman, E.H & Gass, S. I.. The Analytic Hierarchy Process An Exposition. Retrieved August, 9th, 2010, from : www.johnsaunders.com/papers/ahpexpo.pdf
- Saaty. T. & Vargas. L. G. (2001). *Models, Methods, Concepts & Applications of The Analytic Hierarchy Process.* Kluwer's International Series.
- Zhiling Lin, Liqun Gao, Dapeng Zhang, Ping Ren & Yang Li. (2006). Application of Analytic Hierarchy Process in Power Lines Maintenance. Proc. of the 6th World Congress on Intelligent Control and Automation. China. Dalian. pp. 7596-7599.
- Cimren, E., Budak, E. & Catay, B. (2004) *Development of a Machine Tool Selection Systems Using Analytic Hierarchy Process*. Retrieved September, 10th, 2011,

from The Ohio State University: https://research.sabanciuniv.edu/500/1/3011800001091.pdf

- Sheth, N.N. (2008). An Energy Security and Climate Change Model for Residential Space Heating : An Analytic Hierarchy Process Approach. Dalhousie University: Master's Thesis.
- Vijayakumar, S. (2010). Analysis of Alternative Manufacturing Processes for Lightweight BIW Designs, Using Analytic Hierarchy Process. Clemson University. Master's Thesis.
- Yan, L. (2010). An Analytic Hierarchy Process Approach to Asses Health Service Quality. University of Texas-Pan American. Master's Thesis.
- Noureddine, A. K.(2010). A Prioritization System for School Rehabilitation Projects. California State University: Master's Thesis.
- Prasad, R. D., Bansal, R. C. & Sauturaga, M. (2008). Some of the Design and Methodology Considerations in Wind Resource Assessment. *IET Renew. Power Generation*, 2009 (3), pp. 53-64.
- Prof. Choi, E. C. C. (2009). Proposal for United Categories Exposures and Velocity
 Profiles. *The 7th Asia-Pacific Conference on Wind Engineering, 2009*. Retrieved Jan, 20th, 2011, from : http://www.wind.arch.t-kougei.ac.jp/APECWW/Benchmark/terrain CHOI.pdf
- Bagiorgas, H. S., Assimakopoulus, M. N. & Theoharopoulos, D. (2006). Electricity Generation Using Wind Energy Conversion Systems in the Area of Western Greece. *Energy Conversion and Management*, 48(2007), pp. 1640-1655.
- Williams, J. (2005). *Standard Atmosphere Tables*. Retrieved March 15th, 2011, from http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wstatmo/htm

- Josimovic, B. & Pucar, M. (2010). The Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment of Electric Wind Energy Plants : Case Study 'Bavaniste' (Serbia). *Renewable Energy*, 35(2010), pp. 1509-1519.
- Krohn, S. & Damborg, S. (1999). On Public Attitudes Towards Wind Power. *Renewable Energy*, 16 (1999), pp. 954-960.
- Toke, David., Breukers, S. & Wolsink, M. (2008). Wind Power Deployment outcomes : How Can We Account for the Differences?. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 12(2008), pp. 1129-1147.
- Johansson, L. (2000). Summary of IEA Topical Expert Meeting on Noise Immision. Retrieved Feb, 8th, 2011, from International Energy Agency : http://www.ieawind.org/Task_11/TopicalExpert/Summary_34_Noise.pdf
- Van den Berg, F. G. P. (2003). Wind Turbines at Night : Acoustical Practice and Sound Research. Retrieved March 15th, 2011, from http://www.viewsofscotland.org/library/docs/Wind_turbines_at_night_Van_Den _Berg_Mar03.pdf

Hoffman, D. L. & Molinski, T. S. (2009). How New Technology Developments Will
 Lower Wind Energy Costs. CIGRE/IEEE PES Joint Symposium-Integration of
 Wide-Scale Renewable Resources Into the Power Delivery System, 2009. pp.1-1.

- Purvins, A., Zubaryeva, A., Llorente, M., Tzimas, E. & Mercier, A. (2011). Challenges and Options for a Large Wind Power Uptake by the European Electricity system. *Applied Energy*, 88(2011), pp. 1461-1469.
- Liao, C. P., Jochem, E., Zhang, Y. & Farid, N. R. (2010). Wind Power Development and Policies in China. *Renewable Energy*, 35(2010), pp. 1879-1886.
- Chen, Z. & Blaajerg, F. (2009). Wind Farm A Power Source in Future Power Systems. *Renewable and Sustainanle Energy Reviews*, 13(2009), pp. 1288-1300.

Hughes, T. Determining Wind Power Density and Wind Power Classes from Wind Speed Information. Retrieved March 10th, 2011, from http://www.seic.okstate.edu/owpi_old/about/Library/Lesson3_WPD_windclass. pdf