8 Steps Used By Offshore Wind to Create Agreements

by DGR News Service | Feb 16, 2024 | ANALYSIS, The Problem: Civilization | 3 comments



Editor's note: While this article could have been written about any extractive industry, it has focused on offshore wind turbine farms. These destructive projects should require at least as much scrutiny as an offshore oil rig, but they are not. Because in the name of climate mitigation, they are rushed through without consideration for the damage they will cause, or even their effectiveness in serving this purpose and need for existence. Which is usually just based only on government mandates. And this is all done in the name of Big Environmentalism. DGR does not believe the <u>Bright Green Lies</u> of mainstream environmental NGOs.

By <u>Carl van Warmerdam</u>

People who believe that offshore wind turbines can help solve climate change are misinformed. Because the <u>facts</u> are that they will not. Even the companies building them make no such claim. And the <u>truth</u>, based on facts, will always trump belief. I am not a climate denier, but you don't have to be a climate denier to know that these things are bad and are <u>doomed to failure</u>. And you also don't have to be <u>linked</u> to the fossil fuel industry, the same people that

knew they were causing global warming and therefore threatening the very existence of the planet. Yet, in pursuit of profit, fossil fuel executives not only refused to <u>publicly acknowledge</u> what they had learned but, year after year, lied about the existential threat that climate change posed for our planet. "Renewable" energy projects should require just as must scrutiny from regulators and environmentalists as <u>fossil fuel projects</u>.

Truth be told, most rebuildable "renewable" energy extractive companies are also liars, and have ties to fossil fuel companies. In reality what is really going on is a boondoggle, that you won't hear about in mainstream corporate media because they only give disinformation. After years of rebuildable energy – solar and wind infrastructure – the world used more fossil fuels in 2023 than it did in 2022, as it did the year before that and the year before that. We are in fact using more fossil fuel than ever before. From 61 thousand terawattshours of primary energy consumption in 1973, which was the year of the OPEC oil embargo, when governments began to massively support research and development of large wind turbines and solar panels, to 137 thousand today. This is well over twice as much. In that same period, emissions grew from 17 billion metric tons of CO2 emissions to the 37 billion metric tons today. A 20 billion metric ton increase in the last 50 years. And after all of that, 80 percent of our energy use still comes from fossil fuels. The percent of US energy use from electricity has remained the same, about 20 percent. Of that, wind turbines account for 7 percent and solar energy provides 2 percent of total US electricity used. So the dream of a 100 percent electric power supply is just that, a dream.

Why? Because these energy intense extractive technologies require massive amounts of fossil fuels to produce and those emissions are adding onto what is already being used, not reducing it (<u>Jevons paradox</u>). Thus spewing more planet-heating carbon dioxide into the atmosphere at a time when greenhouse gas emissions world wide must nosedive to stop extreme weather from growing more unpredictable and violent. The only reason CO₂ emission may drop in countries installing rebuildable extractive energy and electric vehicles is because they have outsourced the mining and manufacture of these machines to other countries, thus increasing the CO2 emissions in those countries. LNG has replaced dirty coal to run power plants. Add on to all of this, easy access resources are gone. So the Energy Return On Investment (EROI) has gone down sharply in that time. Instead of Jeb shooting for some food, we have to use fracking and offshore drilling, mountaintop removal and deep sea mining. In the foreseeable future, the energy needed to produce our energy needs could approach unsustainable levels, a phenomenon called "energy cannibalism."

If this continues, the so called "green" energy transition will in fact be an energy correction, complements of Mother Nature, bigger and more storms, flooding, fire, drought and biodiversity collapse. These are no longer natural disasters, instead these more powerful weather events are man made.

Nature is not more complicated than you think, it is more complicated than you CAN think" ~Frank Edwin Egler

Rebuildable extractive energy capturing machines are <u>not clean</u> except through greenwashing and are only making our <u>predicament</u> worse. The trillions in government subsidies given to this sector only makes the <u>rich richer</u>. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) should more appropriately be called the <u>4th Industrial Revolution</u> Act. This is government redistribution of wealth from the <u>working class</u> to offshore transnational state sponsored corporations and the wealthy financial class, which are also principally owned by fossil fuel companies. Ultimately any money that is offered by them as payouts for grants, agreements, promotion or mitigation will come from the utility <u>ratepayer</u>. This is a <u>scam</u> that is not <u>financially feasible</u> without trillions in government subsidies. This is what their balance sheet looks like. What is done to the natural environment is even worse.

Wildlife and wind turbines are an uncomfortable mix. Rotating turbine blades can make short work of anyone or anything unlucky enough to collide with them, but direct mortality is only part of the story. Having reviewed the available evidence from around the world, biologists in Finland have found that 63 percent of bird species, 72 percent of bats and 67 percent of terrestrial mammals are displaced from areas where turbines are installed. The same holds true for offshore wind farms, to include fish and marine mammals. Wind turbines are an invasive species to functioning ecosystems that took millions of years to create. The building process is a war zone. The noise and devastation are a disaster to fragile ecosystem habitats. Consider how you would feel if these massive monsters were put up next to your house in your town. The oceans, from which we came, are the lungs of the planet. Life can not exist if the delicate balance is disrupted. These projects are doomed to failure in more ways than one.

True resilience and sustainability comes by thinking globally and acting locally. The land base that people live on should be able to, on its own, continually feed, clothe and house the people who live on it. It makes no sense to destroy the sustainable food provided by the ocean in order to keep the lights on. It is preferable to eat in the dark than to starve in the light. Also know that fish farms are in the same league as wind farms. It is an enclosure

of the commons for corporate control of our food supply, what they call "The Blue Economy".

How do we know that offshore wind will be a "pain" now and into the future for fishing, tourism, cultural heritage, beauty, integrity, stability, sustainability, ecological balance and quality of life? Millions of dollars are offered up to mitigate (bribe) it. Money would better be spent to mitigate the already abandon mines, fossil fuel wells and habitat degradation. This is where our good paying jobs should be working, to protect the planet. Life on the planet can be saved, a modern industrial lifestyle cannot.

How to Convince a Community to Destroy Their Future

Step 1. Create an effective advertising campaign for Your Destructive Offshore Wind Project

Use a name that has a certain <u>historical</u>, <u>cultural</u>, or environmental value for the communities. Change the name from Pilgrim and <u>Mayflower</u>(tone deaf) to South Coast Wind or Vineyard Wind(more like Graveyard). Call it "clean", "green", "renewable" energy that is the solution to climate change and save our lifestyle. With the right branding, people will drink any poison, pinwheels for everyone.

Step 2. Get the Local Government on Your Side

<u>Pay off the local politicians</u> to agree and hand out licenses. Tell them there is nothing they can do to stop it, so they should just get the best Good Neighbor <u>Host Agreement</u> possible or get nothing.

Step 3. Lobby as Much as Possible to Bend the Law in Favor Offshore Wind

Create legal loopholes and tax credits for corporations, behind closed doors. Speed up the "permit" your destruction process. Buy-off federal and state politicians and corporate capture regulatory agencies. Nobody wants these in their <u>backyard</u>, let's just put them out to sea.

Step 4. Presents! Buy Off Public Opinion

Build a new school, library(Carnegie) or sewer system. Or just offer money as compensation to do with as you wish. The major ENGOs have entered into agreement with offshore wind: Natural Resources Defense Council,

National Wildlife Federation, and Conservation Law Foundation and <u>taken</u> <u>money</u>; Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Environmental League of Mass., <u>Sierra Club</u>, etc. along with aquariums, universities and the media.

Step 5. Offer a Compromise

Let us destroy this land/sea here and we will protect some other land/sea. Or agree with us and we will let you have a say in how the destruction will occur. This project has to be done to stop climate change, we have to destroy the planet to save it. There must be sacrifice zones. Sorry that your home is being destroyed but don't be a NIMBY(Not In My Backyard). Actually when respondents of national surveys begin to think about ideas of what rebuildable energy entails, such as offshore wind, their support often diminishes. There will be painful trade-offs, trying to preserve comfortable lives. Most of that pain will come from other species. But if we acknowledge that our modern industrial lifestyle is causing the end of life on the planet, we must say NOPE(Not On Planet Earth).

Step 6. Threats Are Effective Deterrents

If you file a law suit against this project, we will file a lawsuit against you, a SLAPP(<u>Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation</u>). Focus on the leaders of the struggle. Scaring people works. This smear tactic was conducted by the prestigious Ivy League College <u>Brown</u> against the opponents to offshore wind. Attack the messenger. In the global south, this is done <u>literally</u>. Real nice place you got here, it would be a sham if something bad happened to it.

Step 7. Create Chaos and Conflict; Divide the Community in Two Camps

Tout the temporary "good paying union" jobs you will create over the permanent sustainable jobs, fishing and tourism, destroyed forever. Destroying a food source never makes good sense. What is truly needed, at this time of ecological collapse, is food sovereignty. Where jobs are hard to come by this is called poverty pimping. Then don't forget to accuse those opposed to offshore wind of promoting "disinformation". Push it as a choice in political values, Republicans against Democrats. There is a backlash against "renewable" energy. It's turned Democrats into Republicans.

Step 8. Having <u>Wrought Havoc</u>, Now Frame It as a Successful Story of Growth and Prosperity

Welcome to the <u>great big beautiful tomorrow</u>, shining at the end of every day. Technology has fixed the problem that it has created! Too bad it is a dystopian science fiction. No one willingly wants to destroy their environment. It is done because of the Golden Rule: Whoever has the gold, makes the rules! Not to mention that these companies have gotten out of paying most of the taxes required of multinationals. And avoid putting emphasis on the fact that the jobs are short term, while the environmental damage is forever.