

Discussion Questions for February 28, 2017 – Energy Planning and Approval Strategies, and the Challenge of Social License

1. The overarching issue for this week is the following: How do you sincerely engage local interests in energy decision-making without empowering local interests to block projects in the broader public interest?
2. According to Jaccard et al, what are the major challenges in scaling up renewables?
3. What criteria do Jaccard et al use to evaluate planning processes for scaling up renewables?
4. How have these issues been dealt with to date in British Columbia?
5. Are these sorts of planning challenges addressed differently in other jurisdictions?
6. What are the pros and cons of a strategic assessment?
7. According to the Matter of Trust report, what drives local opposition to energy projects?
8. What do the case studies reveal about levels of public support for the projects and trust in regulatory agencies? Is opposition usually from a “vocal minority”?
9. In what ways does context matter in public acceptance of decisions? Be able to offer examples from case studies.
10. How are values and interests different, and how do they influence public acceptance of decisions? Be able to offer examples from case studies.
11. How important is energy literacy in public acceptance of decisions? Be able to offer examples from case studies.
12. What emerges as best practice for public engagement to build public acceptance of decisions? Be able to offer examples from case studies.
13. What will the most challenging issue of social acceptance be in your case?