**Recycling Energy Landscapes in a Crowded World**

Organizers:

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Over the centuries, energy development has largely been a linear enterprise, ending in landscapes disrupted, abandoned, poisoned, and forgotten. This approach is no longer viable. The ongoing “third energy transition” (Whipple, 2011) – a transition from fossil fuels that underpinned the industrial age – to a post-industrial era characterized by increasing competition between the land used for energy development and the land needed for cities, farms, recreation, and contemplation. In many countries, there is increasing pressure to regenerate, reclaim, and redevelop the abandoned, derelict and contaminated areas left behind. These include abandoned mines, processing equipment, waste heaps, disused oil and gas wells, and other traditional energy landscapes. The repurposing of these landscapes – and often disused buildings that rest on them – has become increasingly imperative and economically sensible in the last two decades as competition for land has increased and as emerging policies and economic instruments have grown to support the regeneration processes (e.g., the Re-powering America´s land Initiative, EPA, 2013). We have now reached a period when “recycling“ energy landscapes is occurring with increasing frequency. Examples of this new stage in land use include converting opencast mines to recreational lakes, power plant buildings into museums, sites of mountain-top removal into golf courses, ash disposal piles into the solar farms, canals paths into bike paths, and a wide assortment of energy infrastructure into destinations for „energy tourism“ (Frantál & Urbánková, 2017). This session is intended to identify the need, forms, incentives, and barriers to recycling energy landscapes.

Interested participants should send abstracts to  martinat@geonika.cz by  October 30. Participants will be notified of acceptance and inclusion into the session by turn.

References:

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (2013): RE-Powering America's Land Initiative: Renewable Energy Projects on Potentially Contaminated Lands, Landfills, and Mine Sites. [online]. URL: <http://www.epa.gov/renewableenergyland/docs/tracking_matrix.pdf>

Frantál, B., Urbánková, R. (2017). Energy tourism: An emerging field of study. Current Issues in Tourism, 20 (13), 1395-1412

Whipple, T. (2011): The Peak Oil Crisis: The 3rd Transition. In: Falls Church News-Press, February 17, 2011 [online]. URL: http://www.fcnp.com/commentary/national/8548-the-peak-oil-crisis-the-3rd-transition.html