

## University of Groningen

### An area-based research approach to energy transition

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AN AREA-BASED RESEARCH APPROACH TO  
ENERGY TRANSITION

Jessica de Boer

*Photos in this thesis are stills from the art installation “The Life of the Dead Blue Hummingbird” by Jessica de Boer in Mexico (2012) and The Hague (2013). The art installations of De Boer display natural processes finding their ways autonomously. As a kind of contemporary animism, the set ups show that matter, or what appears to be inanimate, interacts with other substances thereby triggering movement and change and suggesting life.*

Photo credits: Emilio Espinosa

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university of  
 groningen

# **An area-based research approach to energy transition**

**PhD thesis**

to obtain the degree of PhD at the  
 University of Groningen  
 on the authority of the  
 Rector Magnificus Prof. E. Sterken  
 and in accordance with  
 the decision by the College of Deans.

This thesis will be defended in public on  
 Monday 12 November 2018 at 09.00 hours

by

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This PhD research builds upon work of colleagues from the Department of Spatial Planning and Environment at the University of Groningen. The works from Gert de Roo, Christian Zuidema and Ferry van Kann on complex systems, local environmental planning, and area-based approaches were the points of departure for this PhD research project.

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# CONTENTS

<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION: AN AREA-BASED RESEARCH APPROACH TO ENERGY TRANSITION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 THE ENERGY SYSTEM IS CHANGING	1
1.2 MOTIVATIONS	2
1.3 RESEARCH OBJECTIVE	6
1.4 RESEARCH FRAMEWORK	7
1.5 RESEARCH QUESTIONS	20
1.6 RESEARCH DESIGN	23
1.7 THESIS OUTLINE	29
REFERENCES	33
<b>2 TOWARDS AN INTEGRATED ENERGY LANDSCAPE</b>	<b>39</b>
2.1 INTRODUCTION	41
2.2 RESEARCH METHOD	42
2.3 TRANSITION THINKING	43
2.4 THE IMAGE OF AN INTEGRATED ENERGY LANDSCAPE	45
2.5 UNDERSTANDING LOCAL ENERGY INITIATIVES	49
2.6 CONCLUSION	52
REFERENCES	54
<b>3 INTEGRATED ENERGY LANDSCAPES: HOW COEVOLUTION ENCOURAGES PLANNERS TO FOCUS ON DEVELOPING LINKAGES BETWEEN RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS AND LOCAL LANDSCAPES</b>	<b>59</b>
3.1 INTRODUCTION	63
3.2 TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEM	64
3.3 THE HISTORY OF THE ENERGY LANDSCAPE	69
3.4 COEVOLUTIONARY BEHAVIOUR IN ENERGY LANDSCAPES	73
3.5 CONCLUSION	77
REFERENCES	78
<b>4 NEW INTERACTION PATHS IN THE ENERGY LANDSCAPE: THE ROLE OF LOCAL ENERGY INITIATIVES</b>	<b>85</b>
4.1 INTRODUCTION	87
4.2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	88
4.3 METHOD	92
4.4 FINDINGS	95
4.5 CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSION	100

REFERENCES	102
<b>5 THE ADAPTATION OF DUTCH ENERGY POLICY TO EMERGING AREA-BASED ENERGY PRACTICES</b>	<b>107</b>
5.1 INTRODUCTION	109
5.2 ACCOMMODATING AREA-BASED ENERGY PRACTICES?	110
5.3 METHODS	113
5.4 THE CASE OF THE PCR POLICY	115
5.5 FINDINGS	117
5.6 CONCLUSIONS	126
REFERENCES	127
<b>6 CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>131</b>
6.1 ENERGY TRANSITION IN CONTEXT	131
6.2 AREA-BASED RESEARCH APPROACH TO ENERGY TRANSITION	133
6.3 THE CONTRIBUTION OF LOCAL ENERGY INITIATIVES TO ENERGY TRANSITION	137
REFERENCES	143
<b>7 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>145</b>
7.1 IMPLICATIONS FOR SPATIAL PLANNING AND PUBLIC POLICY	145
7.2 DISCUSSION OF METHODS AND FINDINGS	150
7.3 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FOLLOW-UP RESEARCH	152
REFERENCES	155
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>SAMENVATTING</b>	<b>165</b>



