

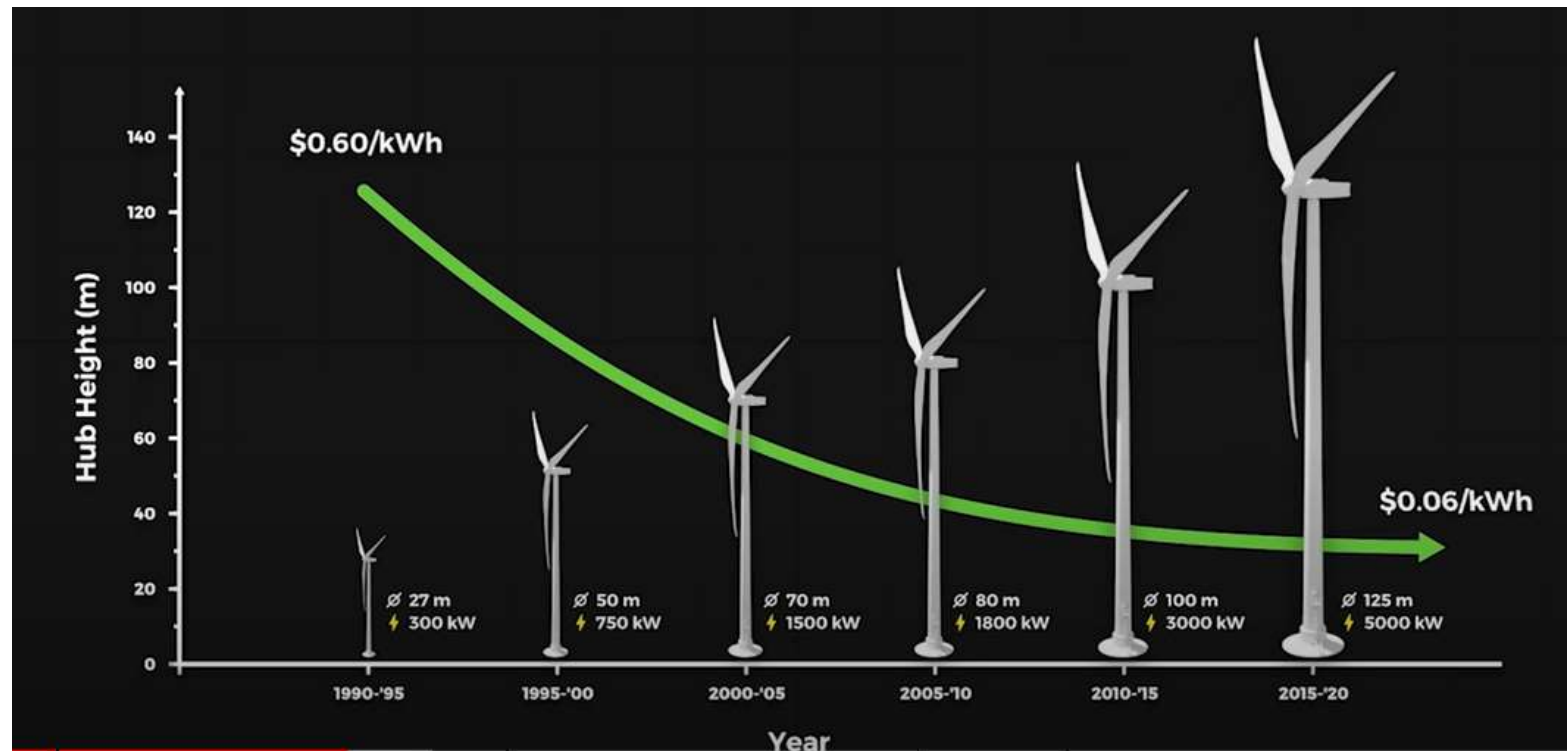


Latvian landscape quality: an evaluation of the landscape`s visual impact

Kristīne Eglīte

Aim of the research

- Prepare visibility studies and impact on the landscape for Environmental impact assessment

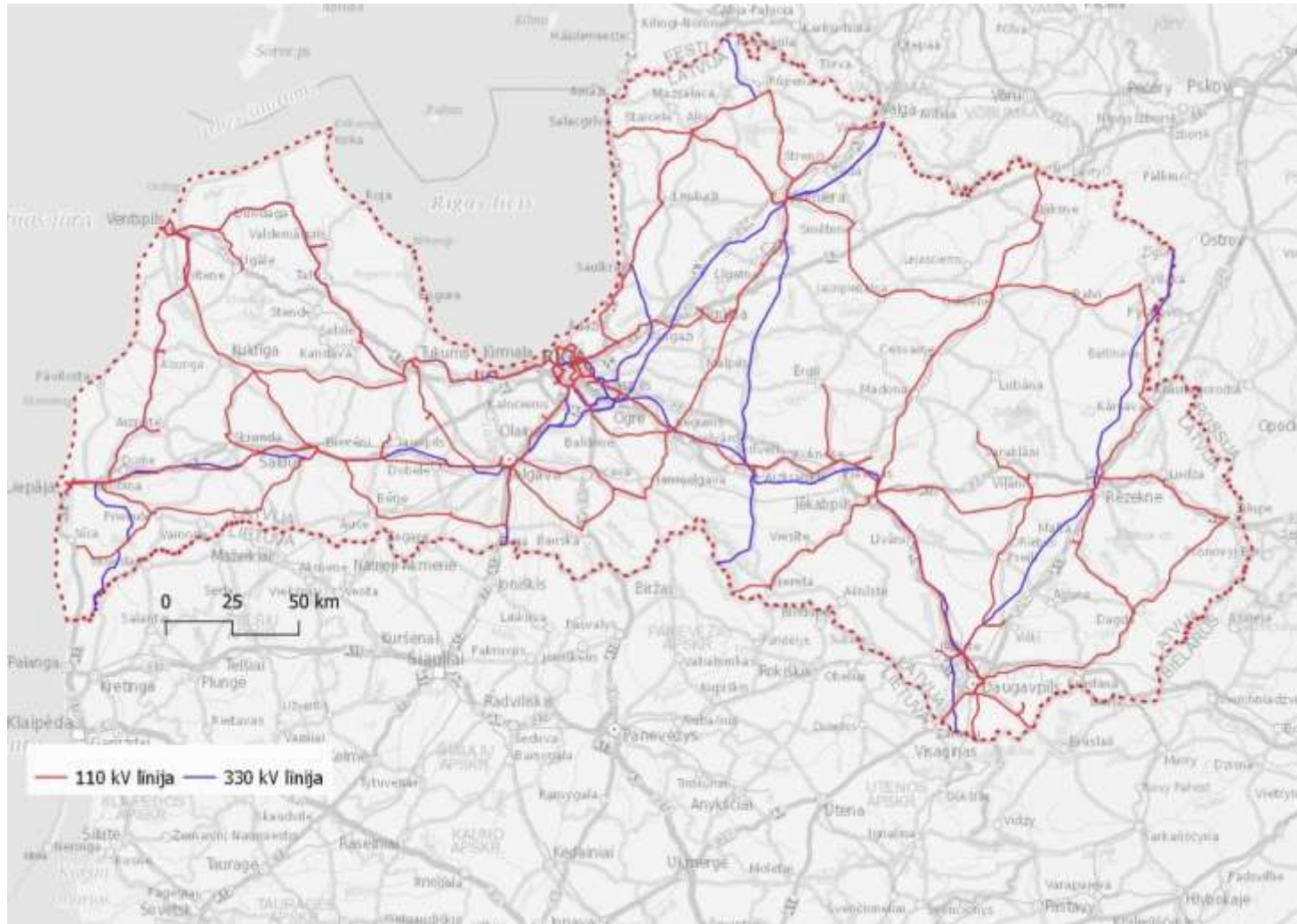


Growth of wind turbines. Source: Siemens Gamesa, 2023

Methodology

- **significance and originality (including formal status)**
- **Distance to wind turbines (number of visible) and ownership issue**
- **landscape, object view, and object view physical and legal availability**
- **current and future tourism potential**
- Four categories are used to assess impact: **none**, **negligible**, **medium**, and **high**.

No – go areas for wind parks in Latvia



Data from Ozols, AST, VZD by Kristīne Eglīte, 2024

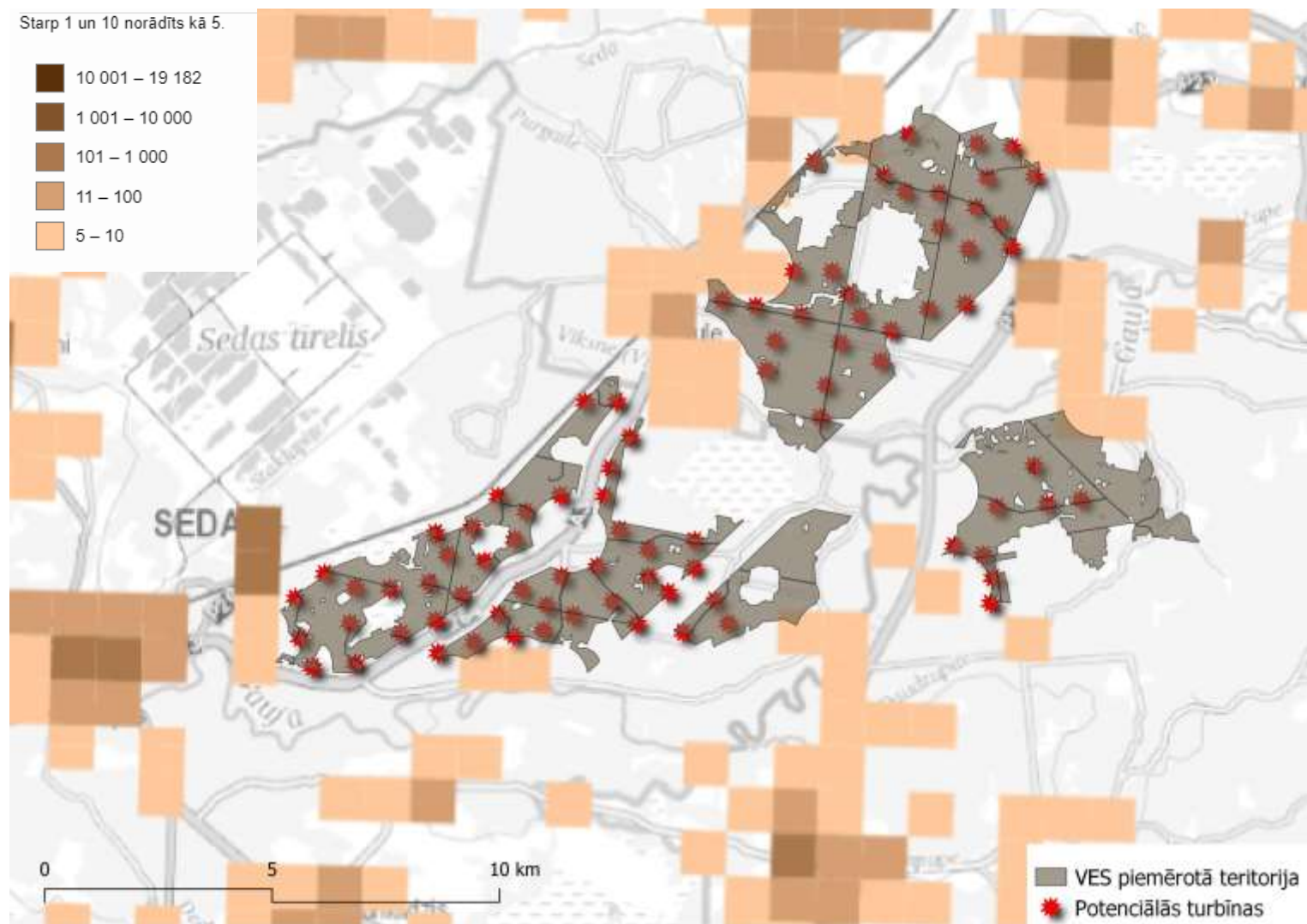
Wind park plans in Latvia



Publicly available information about wind park plans on the February of 2024. Source:

<https://www.vpvb.gov.lv/lv/ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejumu-projekti>

Research area(I)



Population density. Source: CSP, 2023

Research area (II)



Visualization of the 275 m high turbines by Kristīne Eglīte

Conclusions (I)

- One strategy for encouraging the development of wind farms in regions is to educate people about the benefits of wind power.
- Local governments in Latvia should reserve territories for wind farms.
- Wind turbines can be used as a large-scale environmental object in viewpoints where open views are unavoidable.
- The Baltic States have significant potential for offshore wind energy, which could shift the role of Baltic wind energy in Europe.



Conclusions (II)

A photograph of a white wind turbine with three blades, partially obscured by a dense forest of tall, green pine trees. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The image is used as a background for the slide.

- Local people should be encouraged to participate in project planning and decision-making processes in order to help wind farm developers understand the morphological values of neighborhood landscapes.
- Wind park developers should include visualizations in different seasons and different weather conditions, to help local people understand the possible wind park visibility from different areas.
- Creating wind parks in cooperation with local residents and governments makes it possible to promote economic development, ensure cultural heritage preservation, and region growth



Thank you!

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