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Tuulivoimateollisuuden markkinajohtajat ovat myyneet kolme turbiinia Tanskassa viimeisen vuoden aikana – nyt Tanskan poliittinen enemmistö haluaa poistaa Ministerin esittämän tuottajamaksun

Tanskassa Ministeri on laatinut lakiesityksen ns. tuottajamaksusta. Tuottajamaksulla pyritään varmistamaan, että uusiutuvan energian yhtiöt osallistuisivat kantaverkon vahvistamiseen. Ministeri esittää, että aurinko- ja tuulivoiman rakennuttajien on osallistuttava kustannuksiin, sen sijaan, että lasku kuitataan sähkölaskussa kuluttajien toimesta. Ministerin mukaan on EU sääntöjen vastaista tukea kantaverkon laajennusta ns. Finance Actin kautta, joka on tanskan nykyinen käytäntö. Tuottajamaksu nostaisi 5 MW maatuulivoimalan investointikustannusta noin 5 miljoonalla kruunulla (eli noin 672 000 euroa).

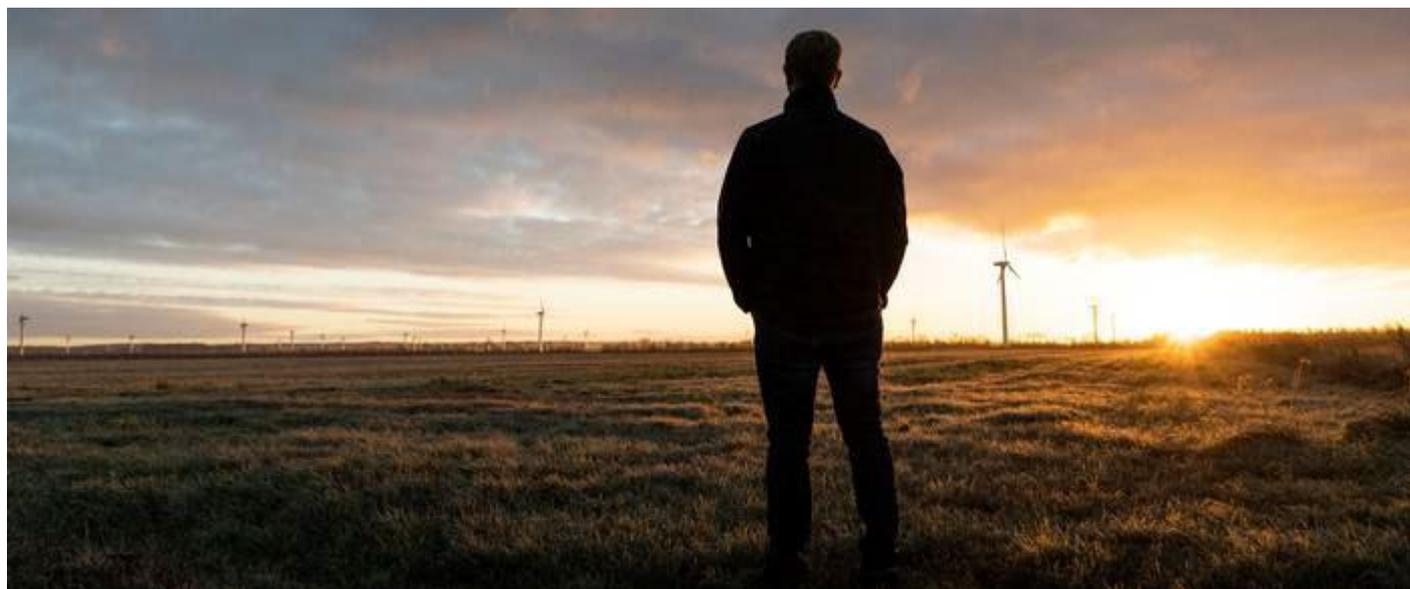
Jan Hylleberg, Wind Denmark:n toimistujohtaja, toteaa, että tuuliyhtiöt eivät halua osallistua kustannuksiin, vaan toivovat, että lakiesitys heitetään roskakoriin.

Lakiesitys on johtanut uusien tuulihankkeiden tyrehtymiseen. Ministeri ei kuitenkaan usko, että lakiesitys ja Tuottajamaksu johtaisivat pysyvään investointipakoon, vaan uusiutuvan energian investoinnit käynnistyvät uudelleen.

Wind giants have sold three turbines in Denmark in one year - now the political majority wants to remove the minister's stop block

Wind energy must help to free Europe from Putin's gas, but in Denmark, sales of onshore wind turbines have come to a complete halt. A political majority outside the government will now defer a reviled extra bill to producers of solar and wind energy.

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The erection of onshore wind turbines in Denmark has stalled due to the uncertainty about new rules for connection to the electricity grid.

The picture is from Dejbjerg by Skjern. Photo: Joachim Ladefoged



JAKOB MARTINI

While Europe is in a historic energy crisis and fears the shutdown of Russian gas, the **installation of new onshore wind turbines is coming to a complete standstill in Denmark.**

Last year, the two billion groups Vestas and Siemens Gamesa together sold only three wind turbines for installation in Denmark, according to a new statement from the interest group Wind Denmark. **In 2023 and 2024, the industry does not expect a single turbine to be set up in the Danish landscape.**

This is deeply problematic in a situation where we must get rid of Putin's gas as soon as possible, according to both the opposition and the government's support parties. A majority now wants the government to postpone the introduction of new tariffs, which have become a stumbling block for the expansion of wind turbines and solar parks.

"We must become independent of Putin's gas as soon as possible. It is a new agenda that must be prioritized, «says the Unity List's energy and climate spokesman, Søren Egge Rasmussen, who has so far backed the government's new tariffs.

At Vestas, Morten Dyrholm, director of marketing, communication and sustainability, is frustrated.

"It simply came to our notice then. We are talking about becoming energy dependent as soon as possible, we have a climate crisis and we have electricity prices that are exploding. The

best possible solution to all those problems is to build a lot of renewable energy, and yet we are in a situation where we do not build anything at all," says Morten Dyrholm.

At the same time as wind turbine sales have stalled, several large solar parks have been shelved. As Finans recently revealed, energy companies have postponed or dropped support-free solar projects that could provide green electricity to millions of Danes within a year or two.

There are several different obstacles that stand in the way of the expansion of solar and wind energy in Denmark.

In many places, there are problems with the electricity grid, just as the approval processes, according to the players, are slow and hassle-free. But **the biggest stumbling block right now is the prospect of new rules for connection to the electricity grid**, which gives producers of renewable energy (RE) an unknown extra bill from 1 January 2023.

The idea behind **the new so-called producer payment** is that the renewable energy producers will cover a larger part of the costs of expanding the collective electricity network. It was decided back in the summer of 2020, but the legislation is not yet in place, and according to the industry, investors lose their appetite for building large solar and wind farms in Denmark when they do not know the price of the projects.



According to Wind Denmark, the preliminary announcements indicate that the price for erecting a new large onshore wind turbine of 5 megawatts will increase by approx. 5 mio. kr.

At Christiansborg, the opposition has in recent months criticized the course of events with the new rules, which are not yet in place. With the support of both the Unity List and the Radicals, the blue bloc can now gather a majority to postpone the producer payment. "I do not understand how you can put things off so much. We so much need to step up our efforts and get started. These leg braces must be removed," says climate rapporteur Mona Juul (K).

In 2022, there has been a transitional scheme where the costs for expanding the electricity grid have been financed through the Finance Act. According to the government, it would be contrary to EU state aid rules to extend that scheme, but that argument does not give the Liberal Party's energy spokesman, Carsten Kissmeyer, much for it.

"In the current situation, we need to set up solar and wind projects as quickly as possible, so I wonder if a solution can be found," he says.

In the wake of the Ukraine crisis, the Radicals have proposed an emergency package for 300 million. DKK, which must ensure that wind and solar projects with ongoing case processing can be connected under the current transitional scheme. According to the party, this will

provide up to 2.3 gigawatts of sun and 0.4 gigawatts of onshore wind - or enough green power to supply over one million Danes.

Several parties will also work to facilitate the approval processes in the municipalities and have a plan drawn up to expand the electricity grid as soon as possible. DF's energy and climate rapporteur, René Christensen, is deeply frustrated that large solar parks on Lolland-Falster must be shelved, because the electricity grid cannot bring electricity around the rest of the country.

“It is a huge problem if we are to reach our 70% target. It is equivalent to saying that you want to drive a trip to Italy, even though there are no roads to drive on, "he says.

Despite the political headwind, Minister of Climate, Energy and Supply Dan Jørgensen will continue to fight for the introduction of producer payment on 1 January 2023.

“It provides the right financial incentives to the installers and ensures that it does not come at the expense of consumers’ electricity bills. We must not forget that it will only become more lucrative to set up wind turbines - especially in light of the fact that fossil energy prices are rising sharply (as a result of the war in Ukraine, ed.), «Dan Jørgensen answers in an e-mail.

The Minister acknowledges that there may be a temporary decline in the market, but does not expect the new tariffs to affect the development of renewable energy in the longer term.

He also emphasizes that the government sees the green transition as the best protection against the current energy crisis and warns of a green energy and supply proposal later this year, which will, among other things, put further acceleration on the renewable energy expansion.

At Wind Denmark, CEO Jan Hylleberg prefers that the plans for the producer payment end up in the bin, but a postponement could also make a huge difference, he assesses. Now he puts his trust in the fact that the majority outside the government stands by their word and restarts the market.

»It will be possible to set up relatively much renewable energy in a relatively short time. Due to the uncertain conditions, you are of course a little behind in the planning, but I will not be surprised if from next year you will be able to see deliveries into the Danish market of more than double what we have seen before, " says Jan Hylleberg.

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