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Understanding Urban Energy Landscapes Through a Territorialization Lens : a comparative case study of energy use in two eco-districts- Parc Marianne, Montpellier, and Olympic Village, Vancouver

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Understanding Urban Energy Landscapes through a territorialization lens : a comparative case study of energy use in two eco-districts- Parc Marianne, Montpellier, and Olympic Village, Vancouver

What does a sustainable energy system look like? This study finds that a territorialized Urban Energy Landscape can support a sustainable energy transition. But what does that mean? Geographers borrowed the term landscape from artists, and some consider geography as a 'landscape science'. Landscapes don't only mean visible environments and can also be invisible systems like energy. This study views communities as Urban Energy Landscapes. An energy territorialization lens is used to understand how 'rooted' energy systems are in two different urban communities defined as eco-districts, one in Montpellier, France and the other in Vancouver, Canada. While physically the two landscapes are remarkably similar, the lens used shows that the energy landscapes are different, with Montpellier residents having a significantly more engaged relationship with energy than their Canadian cousins who, are considered 'techno-dependant'. The findings provide insights for the needed steps that support a transition to a low carbon future.