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Energy from renewable sources — general rules of environmental protection

KEY WORDS: environmental protection, renewable energy, Skierniewice region, power plants: solar, wind, biomass, biogas, geothermal

Introduction

The increase of renewable energy share in domestic energy balance from current level of 2.5 to 7.5% in 2010 and 14% in 2020 is the main political goal according to “Strategy of Renewable Energy Development” elaborated at the request of Ministry of Environment [7]. Considering the initial exploitation experience in Poland and observing the operation of such objects outside of Poland the general rules of environmental protection at the location of objects for acquiring energy from renewable sources (geothermal, wind, solar and biomass) should be stated. Authors would like to present the proposed rules of eco-preferences on the example of Skierniewice region, where — in the scale of country — the substantial resources of mentioned above renewable energy types exist. In macro scale the resources of solar and wind energy are almost identical in every place in this region. The resources of geothermal energy are associated with two main geothermal levels, which do not coexists in every place. Different biomass types occur only locally and on relatively small areas.

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General localisation eco-preferences

From the standpoint of territorial energy demand and existing economic conditions the acquisition of unconventional energy by individual recipients should be expected. The sources will be single, scattered object with small power capacity. Bigger agglomeration will need the objects of bigger power capacity. At this assumptions, every area could be divided in the following categories [6, 16]:

N — not urbanized area inadequate for acquisition of energy from renewable sources;

S — not urbanized area suitable for unlimited energy acquisition from renewable sources;

L — not urbanized area suitable for limited energy acquisition from renewable sources;

S(N) — urbanized area suitable for unlimited energy acquisition from renewable (solar, biogas or geothermal) sources with the exception of wind power.

The location of mentioned above areas in Skierniewice region is presented in the figure 1. For the sake of image clarity the location of future geothermal power plants (objects of relatively big power capacity) were not included.

N category areas consists of woods and forests. Mainly due to the natural (regardless the protection status) and esthetical issues these areas should be considered as useless for renewable energy sources acquisition with the exception of the existing old bore holes, that could be used for geothermal energy acquirement.

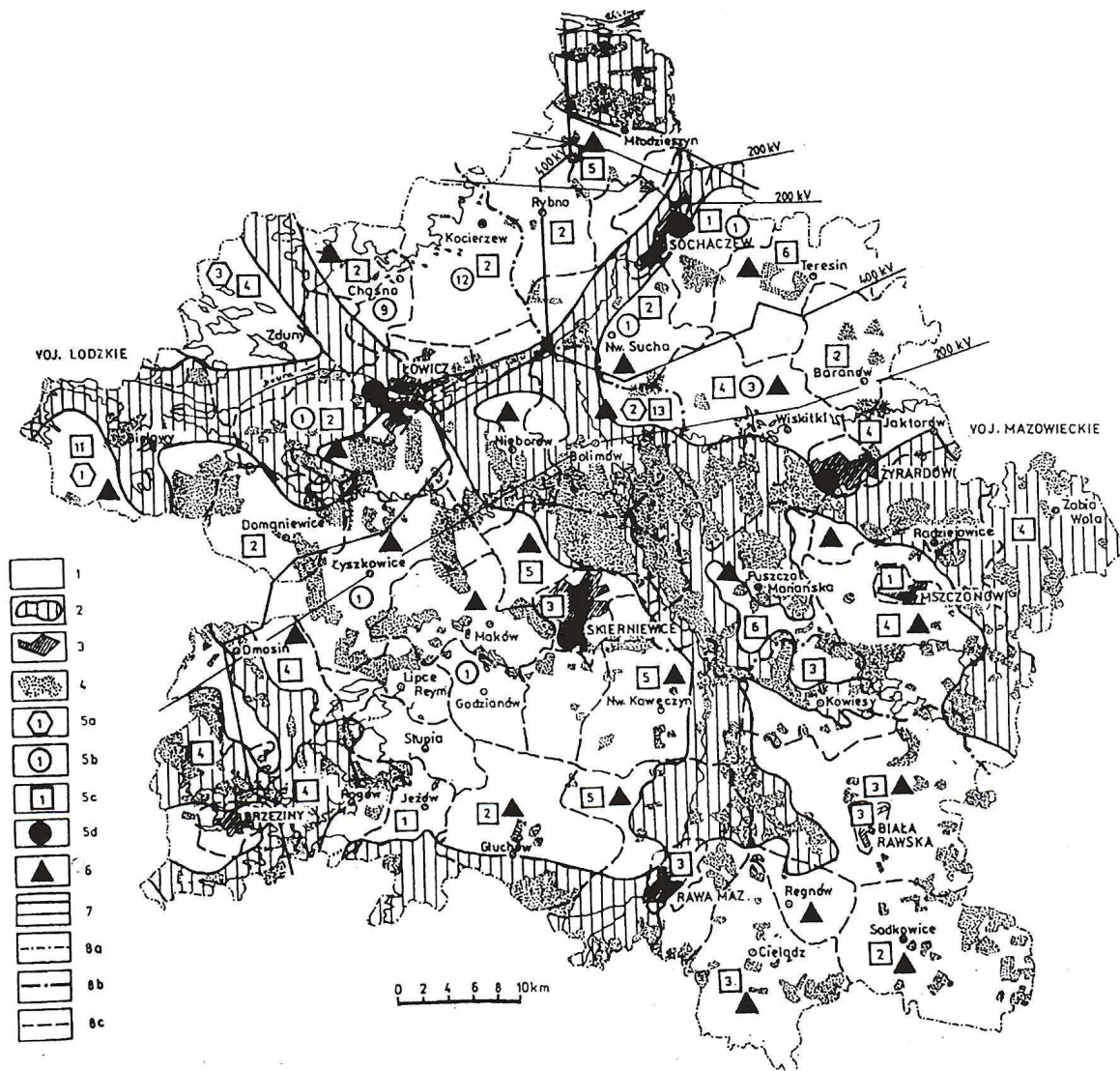
S category areas are preferred for the location of photovoltaic systems with power capacity ranging from 10 Wp to 10 kWp — both for stand alone systems and systems integrated with existing electric network, i.e. where the energy supplied is produced from conventional sources.

Fig. 1. Map of eco-preferences for the location of objects using the renewable energy sources (wind, solar, biomass and biogas)

1 — not urbanized area suitable for unlimited energy acquisition from renewable sources S; 2 — not urbanized area suitable for limited energy acquisition from renewable sources L; 3 — urbanized area suitable for unlimited energy acquisition from renewable (solar, biogas or geothermal) sources with the exception of wind power S(N); 4 — not urbanized area inadequate for acquisition of energy from renewable sources N; 5 — potential number of object in the commune area that fulfil the profitability criteria for energy acquisition from biomass and/or biogas: a — farmhouses with at least 20 milk cows (20 SD), b — farmhouses with at least 80 (20SD), c — farmhouses with the crop area of at least 20 ha, d — large municipal landfills (acquiring above 10,000 t of wastes per year, operating for at least 2 years, built for more than 30,000 of inhabitants); 6 — communes with private areas prospected for forest (including potential special forest plantations — the source of biomass for heat power engineering); 7 — main power lines (200kV and 400 kV) according to Studium... [17]; 8 — administrative borders: a — the border of Skierniewice Voivodship until 31.12.1998, b — the border of Mazowieckie and Łódzkie Voivodeship from 01.01.1999, c — commune borders

Rys. 1. Mapa obszarów ekopreferencyjnych dla lokalizacji obiektów wykorzystujących energię odnawialną (wiatrową, słoneczną, biomasę i biogaz)

1 — obszary kategorii S; 2 — obszary kategorii L; 3 — obszary kategorii S/N; 4 — obszary kategorii N; 5 — potencjalna liczba obiektów w obszarze gminy spełniających kryteria opłacalności pozyskania energii biomasy i/lub biogazu: a — gospodarstwa posiadające minimum 20 sztuk krów mlecznych (20 SD — sztuk dużych), b — gospodarstwa posiadające minimum 80 sztuk tródy chlewnej (20 SD), c — gospodarstwa uprawiające minimum 20 ha zbóż, d — duże składowiska odpadów komunalnych (gromadzące powyżej 10 tys. ton odpadów rocznie, funkcjonujące minimum 2 lata, urządzone dla ponad 30 tys. mieszkańców); 6 — gminy posiadające grunty prywatne przewidziane do zalesienia (w tym potencjalnie przez specjalne plantacje leśne — źródła biomasy dla energetyki cieplnej); 7 — główne linie elektroenergetyczne (200 kV i 400 kV) wg Studium... [17]; 8 — granice administracyjne: a — granica woj. skierniewickiego do 31.XII.1998 r., b — granica woj. mazowieckiego i łódzkiego od 1.I.1999 r., c — granice gmin



These areas are favoured for location of systems that use the solar energy — decentralised passive and active, especially low temperature active systems (i.e. of working factor temperature $T \sim 120^{\circ}\text{C}$ and of concentration ratio $C = 1$). These systems could be used for the preparation of warm operational waters [19] or be employed in gardening or fruits and vegetables drying. Provided this will turn useful (not necessarily in the exemplar area, but also in others regions of this category in Poland) the centralised systems of medium temperature ($T = 320^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $C = 50$ or $T = 400^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $C = 200$) could be located there as well as high temperature systems united with steam turbine ($T = 500^{\circ}\text{C}$; $C = 500$) or gas turbines ($T = 900^{\circ}\text{C}$; $C = 1500$). The wind power plants could be located there (single fan or wind farms, depending on resources in macro scale presented by Lorenc [9, 10, 11] after verification of these resources in micro scale — for specific location) as well as straw and biogas furnaces where biomass resources exists (fig. 1).

L category encompass areas where exploitation of unconventional energy acquisition systems is subordinated to the goals of legal protection of nature and landscape assets. Exemplar area — Skierniewice region — is the area of significant nature assets, Wyniesienia Łódzkie National Landscape Park [17], Bolimowski Landscape Park and its surroundings [5, 8], nature reservations, bird sites, the ECONET-PL network, protected landscapes [5]. It is proposed to favour photovoltaic stand alone systems with power capacity ranging from 100 to 200 Wp (in exceptional situations even to 10 kWp). Solar systems could also be located there, but only low temperature ($T = 120^{\circ}\text{C}$; $C = 1$) decentralised passive and active. In exceptional situations — after coordination with bodies that keep legal care at the said area — small biogas power plants and straw furnaces etc., and outside bird sites (fig. 2) — single fans and small wind farms could be taken under consideration.

S(N) category areas are preferred for location of solar power plants of new type — the photovoltaic systems of small power capacity (1—3 kWp), integrated with roofs or building walls and associated with electric network. However the power plants of high power capacity (up to 20 kWp) also could be installed in these areas. These areas are preferred for location of solar energy systems — not only passive systems, but also active systems with low temperature collectors ($T = 120^{\circ}\text{C}$; $C = 1$). It would support the preparation of warm operational waters [18]. The use of biogas from the municipal landfills (where such landfills exists) in these areas is also suggested. The areas of described category are ineffective for wind power acquisition due to specific and unfavourable aerodynamic conditions and high noise level during the work of fan wheel.

Specific eco-preferences for location of geothermal power plants

Potential recipients of geothermal energy are located in S(N) category areas and therefore there or in proximity of these areas, the places for exploitation should be searched. The rules of eco-preferences in location of geothermal heat station have to consider several elements:

a) confront the demand for heat in indicated places (currently the places of increased pollution emission to atmosphere and in future potential concentration of geothermal energy recipients) with expected deposit conditions;

b) take under consideration the potential adapting possibilities of existing technical infrastructure (old bore holes, wells, which use could be crucial to meet the local needs for heat; main electromagnetic lines and pipelines; central or decentralised town heating systems);

c) confront the premises presented in points a and b with the need of protection the areas of the highest biological naturalness and diversity, being under pressure of mentioned emission centres.

In the figure 2 the places of current and potential location of geothermal plants in the considered area were indicated. The theoretical target number of these power plants was taken into account as a result of the following works analysis: Balcer [1]; Seminarium... [15]; Bujakowski and Balcer [2]; Dokumentacja... [4]; Modernizacja... [12]; Opinia... [14]; Modernizacja... [13]. The proposed location take into consideration:

- ◆ the expected energy needs (in regard to existing balances of Sierniewice and Żyrardów);
- ◆ the potential possibilities of geothermal resources management in the towns of former Skierniewice Voivodship and in towns — sites of commune authorities (i.e. in potential future municipal and commune centres of geothermal energy distribution networks).

It is proposed that the location of geothermal power plants should be divided into three eco-preference levels, taking as a basis the conventionally agreed division for the categories of protected areas and geothermal waters:

α — (high eco-preference location) — in the centres of combustion emissions impacting the protected areas of I and II category, and simultaneously in the places of the occurrence of geothermal waters of category A;

γ — (low eco-preference location) — in the centres of combustion emissions impacting the protected areas of II and III category, and simultaneously in the places of the occurrence of geothermal waters of category B;

β — (medium eco-preference location) — in the centres of combustion emissions medium in relation to described for α and γ , and additionally in the emissions centres that impact bird sites (conventionally the areas of category I) and on areas of high natural qualities which are not the protected landscape areas (conventionally the areas of category IV).

It is proposed to assume that the areas of I and II category are: the nature reservations, the nod area of ECONET-PL network of international rank together with the area of protected landscape, the area of that network of domestic rank together with landscape park and its surroundings and area of protected landscape, and also ecological corridors of ECONET-PL network of domestic rank together with the areas of protected landscape. In the case of eco-preferences of γ level it is suggested to assume that the area of II category are landscape parks (currently outside of the ECONET-PL network) and the area of III category — protected landscape of high natural qualities.

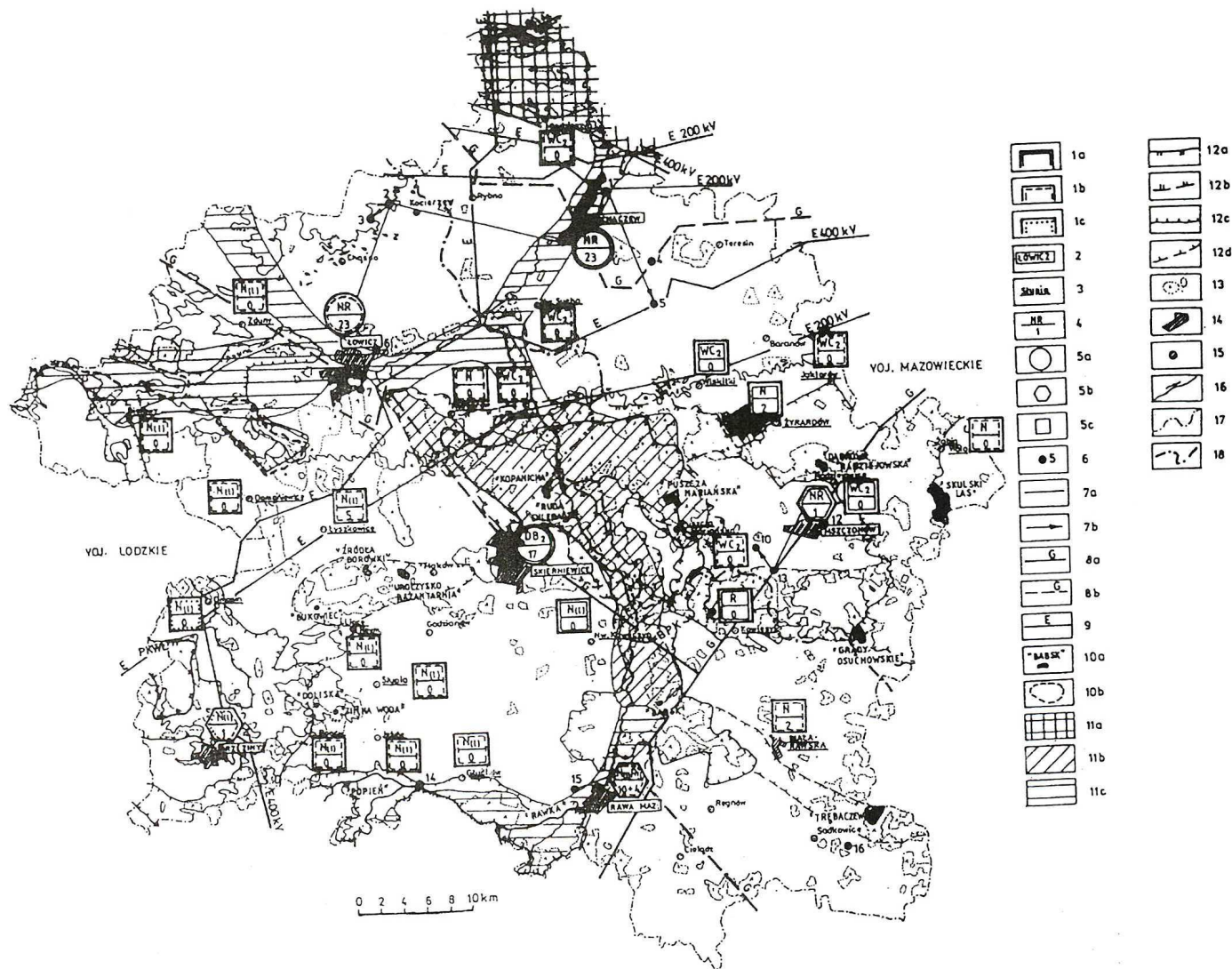
It is also recommended to assume that the geothermal waters of A and B category in the described area are waters of expected resource parameters better or worse than Skierniewice opening GT-1 and/or in reconstructed Mszczonów opening IG-1. In the first case these are highly mineralised Lias waters, above and below the depth of 1602 m under the ground level. The Cretaceous waters could be also applied for purposes other than heating.

For the communes in the exemplar area (fig. 2) the potential possibility of building the geothermal plants which will use the Cretaceous water carrying levels is preferred. The demand

for heat energy is expected to be lower in the commune areas than in towns. Besides there is a possibility of using indicated low mineralised waters for other purposes, after recovering the heat. It allows for the lower investment costs (shallower openings, no necessity for absorptive hole).

Fig. 2. The map of eco-preferences area for location of geothermal power plants in former Skierniewice Voivodship
 1a – high eco-preference location α , 1b – medium eco-preference location β , 1c – (low eco-preference location γ ;
 2 – area name of more than one future geothermal plant; 3 – area name of one future geothermal plant;
 4a – geothermal plant installation class: DB₁ – reconstruction of existing double opening, DB₂ – new double opening, GW₁ – deep heat interchanger in reconstructed opening, GW₂ – deep heat interchanger in new opening, SC₁ – with heat and water recovery from reconstructed opening, SC₂ – with heat and water recovery from new opening, NR – alternative of all classes mentioned above, N₍₁₎ – DB₂ or GW₂, N – DB₂ or GW₂ or SC₂, R – DB₁ or GW₁ or SC₁, N₍₁₎R₍₁₎ – DB₂, DB₂ and GW₁ or GW₂; 4b – the number of deep wells in operation according to W. Bujakowski et al. [3]; 5a – target of 2 geothermal plants; 5b – target of 1 or 2 geothermal plants; 5c – target of 1 geothermal plant; 6 – old deep opening according to W. Bujakowski et al. [3]: 1 – Sochaczew 1, 2 – Różyce 1, 3 – Różyce IG-2, 4 – Sochaczew 3, 5 – Sochaczew 2, 6 – Kompina 2, 7 – Łowicz IG-1, 8 – Skierniewice GT-1, 9 – Skierniewice GT-2, 10 – Korabiewice IG-1, 11 – Mszczonów IG-2, 12 – Mszczonów IG-1, 13 – Raducz IG-1, 14 – Jeżów IG-1, 15 – Rawa Mazowiecka 1, 16 – Szwejk IG-3; 7a – potential geothermal pipeline, 7b – potential geothermal pipeline; 8a – existing gas pipeline according to Studium... [3], 8b – planned gas pipeline according to Studium... [3]; 9 – main power lines according to Studium... [3]; 10 – small protected or requiring protection areas according to I. Głowacka et al. [5]: a – nature reservations, b – bird sites; 11 – ECONET-PL network areas according to I. Głowacka et al. [5]: a – international nodes, b – domestic nodes, c – ecological corridors of ECONET-PL network; 12 – protected areas according to I. Głowacka et al. [5]: a – Bolimowski Landscape Park (B.P.K.), amended with data of B. Król [8] and Wyniesienia Łódzkie Landscape Park (P.K.W.L.) according to data from Studium... [17], b – Bolimowski Landscape Park surroundings amended with data of B. Król [8], c – areas of protected landscape, d – areas of high natural qualities outside of ECONET-PL network and protected areas according to Studium... [17]; 13 – forests, tree-planted areas, shrub areas and wetlands; 14 – urbanised areas of high density; 15 – communes sites; 16 – rivers; 17 – administrative borders of Skierniewice Voivodship until 31.12.1998; 18 – the border of Mazowieckie and Łódzkie Voivodeship from 01.01.1999

Rys. 2. Mapa obszarów ckopreferencyjnych dla lokalizacji ciepłowni geotermalnych w regionie skierniewickim
 1a – ckopreferencje rzędu α (wysokie), 1b – ckopreferencje rzędu β (średnie), 1c – ckopreferencje rzędu γ (niskie);
 2 – nazwa obszaru docelowo o więcej niż jednym zakładzie geotermalnym; 3 – nazwa obszaru docelowo o jednym zakładzie geotermalnym; 4a – umowna klasa instalacji zakładu geotermalnego: DB₁ – dublet z rekonstrukcją otworu istniejącego, DB₂ – dublet nowych otworów, GW₁ – głęboki wymiennik ciepła w otworze zrekonstruowanym, GW₂ – głęboki wymiennik ciepła w otworze nowo odwierconym, SC₁ – z odzyskiem wody i ciepła z otworu zrekonstruowanego, SC₂ – z odzyskiem wody i ciepła z otworu nowo odwierconego, NR – alternatywnie wszystkie umowne klasy wymienione powyżej, N₍₁₎ – alternatywnie DB₂ lub GW₂, N – alternatywnie DB₂, GW₂ lub SC₂, R – alternatywnie DB₁, GW₁ lub SC₁, N₍₁₎R₍₁₎ – alternatywnie DB₂, DB₂ GW₁ lub GW₂; 4b – liczba czynnych studni głębinowych wg W. Bujakowskiego i in. [3]; 5a – docelowo 2 zakłady geotermalne; 5b – docelowo 1 lub 2 zakłady geotermalne; 5c – docelowo 1 zakład geotermalny; 6 – stary głęboki otwór wiertniczy wg W. Bujakowskiego i in. [3]; 1 – Sochaczew 1, 2 – Różyce 1, 3 – Różyce IG-2, 4 – Sochaczew 3, 5 – Sochaczew 2, 6 – Kompina 2, 7 – Łowicz IG-1, 8 – Skierniewice GT-1, 9 – Skierniewice GT-2, 10 – Korabiewice IG-1, 11 – Mszczonów IG-2, 12 – Mszczonów IG-1, 13 – Raducz IG-1, 14 – Jeżów IG-1, 15 – Rawa Mazowiecka 1, 16 – Szwejk IG-3;
 7a – ewentualny rurociąg geotermalny doprowadzający, 7b – ewentualny rurociąg geotermalny zatłaczający;
 8a – rurociąg gazowy istniejący wg Studium... [17], 8b – rurociąg gazowy planowany wg Studium... [17];
 9 – główne linie elektroenergetyczne wg Studium... [17]; 10 – obszary wg I. Głowackiej i in. [5]: a – rezerwatów przyrody, b – ostoi ptaków wyznaczone przez OTOP; 11 – obszary sieci ECONET-PL wg I. Głowackiej i in. [5]: a – węzłowe rangi międzynarodowej, b – węzłowe rangi krajowej, c – korytarze ekologiczne rangi krajowej;
 12 – obszary chronione wg I. Głowackiej i in. [5]: a – Bolimowskiego Parku Krajobrazowego (B. P. K.), uzupełnione danymi B. Króla [8], i Parku Krajobrazowego Wyniesień Łódzkich (P. K. W. Ł.) wg danych ze Studium... [17], b – otulina Bolimowskiego Parku Krajobrazowego, uzupełnione danymi B. Króla [8], c – obszary chronionego krajobrazu, d – obszary o wysokich walorach przyrodniczych poza siecią ECONET-PL i obszarami chronionymi wg danych ze Studium... [17]; 13 – obszary leśne, zadrzewione, zakrzewione i zawnodnione; 14 – obszary zwartej zabudowy miejskiej; 15 – siedziby gmin; 16 – rzeki; 17 – granice administracyjne woj. skierniewickiego do 31.XII.1998 r.; 18 – granica woj. mazowieckiego i łódzkiego od 01.01.1999 r.



The absorptive hole is another hole in case of classic geothermal installation (in the fig. 2 it is indicated by 'DB' and index '1' in the case where there is at least theoretical possibility of reconstruction of the old openings or index '2' where there is no such possibility).

The use of Cretaceous waters (after heat recovery) for the municipal or industry purposes will cause the increase of undertaking costs with the costs of sewage utilisation after use of these waters. Due to longer — than classic — installation expected life (because the lack of absorption hole eliminates the problem of the deposit cooling, which indicates the end of geothermal installation operation), the costs of the whole undertaking will simultaneously decrease. The lack of aggressiveness of these waters (low mineralisation) allows for the use of cheaper material for the pipes needed to make the deposit available. In the figure 2 the installations of this type are indicated by 'SC' (and indexes analogical like for the installations of 'DB' type).

Where the expected demand for heat will be relatively small, combined with the lack of Cretaceous geothermal waters of required parameters it is suggested to use — other than classic — the highly mineralised Lias waters (i.e. from the water-bearing horizon of the best geothermal parameters in the described area). It could be accomplished by the use of one opening working as a deep heat interchanger (and in this case it will eliminate the problem of the future deposit cooling). In the figure 2 these installation are indicated by the symbol 'GW' (and indexes analogical like for the installations 'DB' or 'SC' type). Where relatively low heat demand exists the possibility of using the 'GW' installation for shallower geothermal horizons could be considered (decrease of the drilling investment costs), represented by highly mineralised, but less efficient waters of Dogger and Malm levels [3].

Location of geothermal objects of high eco-preferences (α level) within the borders of the described area concern in order: Skierniewice, Mszczonów and Żyrardów, Sochaczew, Wiskitki, Radziejowice, Nowy Kawęczyn and Kowiesy. The realisation of the objects mentioned above will allow to verify and make more precise the order of the proposed undertakings for eco-preferences of level β and γ , in the places indicated in the figure 2. Also, it will allow for preparation of the efficient system for financing such undertakings in correlation to political goals of "Strategy of Renewable Energy Development" Poland.

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Abstract

The prospected development of renewable power industry in Poland — in relation to integration with European Union — invokes the reflection upon the development of unconventional energy acquisition meeting the requirements of the constitutional rule of sustainable development. This paper is an attempt to

solve this problem in relation to Skierniewice region, located in the central Poland. In association with environmental conditions four land categories (N, S, L, S/L) were designated and the types of power plant (solar, wind, biomass, biogas and geothermal) were defined for each land category.

In the case of geothermal waters the 3-step ecological preferences were proposed to indicate the location of geothermal power plants (α , β , γ) alongside with protected or requiring protection natural environment areas and applying the data about resources available for exploitation (two objects — openings in Skierniewice and Mszczonow). The expected spatial demand for geothermal energy was taken into consideration and potential places of new power plants locations were indicated. Different technological solutions, including adapting the existing industrial infrastructure, also were suggested.

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Ogólne zasady ochrony środowiska przy wykorzystywaniu odnawialnych źródeł energii

SŁOWA KLUCZOWE: ochrona środowiska, energia odnawialna, region skierniewicki, obiekty pozyskiwania energii: słonecznej, wiatru, biomasy, biogazu, geotermalnej

Streszczenie

Przewidywany rozwój w Polsce energetyki odnawialnej, w związku z procesem integracji z Unią Europejską, skłania do zastanowienia się nad sposobem rozwijania energetyki niekonwencjonalnej w zgodzie z konstytucyjną zasadą zrównoważonego rozwoju. Niniejszy artykuł jest próbą rozwiązania tego problemu w odniesieniu do regionu skierniewickiego, położonego w centralnej Polsce. Wskazano tu cztery kategorie terenu (N, S, L, S(N)) i określono dla nich typy obiektów pozyskujących energię z nośników odnawialnych (energii: słonecznej, wiatru, biomasy, biogazu i geotermalnej) przy uwzględnieniu realiów środowiskowych.

W przypadku wód geotermalnych zaproponowano trójstopniowe ekopreferencje dla lokalizacji ciepłowni geotermalnych (α , β , γ) w odniesieniu do obszarów przyrodniczych chronionych lub wymagających ochrony oraz korzystając z danych o zasobach eksploatacyjnych tych wód (dwa obiekty reperowe — otwory w Skierniewicach i Mszczonowie). Uwzględniono także spodziewany przestrzenny popyt na energię geotermalną i wskazano miejsca potencjalnych nowych lokalizacji obiektów udostępniających tę energię. Zasugerowano również sposób skorzystania w nich z różnych rozwiązań technicznych, m.in. adaptujących istniejącą infrastrukturę techniczną.