

Abstract

The development of the wind energy exploitation is a sum of processes which are subject to variety of heterogeneous factors. The nature and the leverage power of those factors vary and develop over time. Each regional or national location can be characterized by variety of factors, which are specific for respective locations. The wind energy development in the Czech Republic is influenced by number of barriers which restrain or slow down further progress. These barriers stem from environmental, economical, social and institutional disposition/nature of respective technologies. This thesis at first, based on available qualitative and quantitative data, describes and analyzes the situation and development of the wind energy exploitation. Specifics of the wind energy are placed in the context of selected European countries where factors and barriers influencing the development is described. The theme is regarded with spatio-temporal distribution of a “new technology”. The thesis goes on focusing on identification of barriers that have impact on the wind energy development in the Czech Republic. Those restrictions/barriers are subsequently confronted with stands and perception of specific stakeholders, which are involved in the process. Analyses are carried out not only on individual barriers but also on their respective parts.

The results of the thesis point out to similar factors, which triggered the initial development of the wind energy in the selected countries and also accentuate various temporal and spatial implications of the process. Simultaneously the thesis identifies barriers that, according to respective stakeholders, are considered to have the biggest limitation on the development of the wind energy in the Czech Republic.

Key words: wind energy, barriers, diffusion of innovation, renewable energy sources, questionnaire survey, Czech Republic