

Publication

Interdisciplinary energy research and energy consumption: What, why, and how?

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

ID 3346348

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Year 2015

Title Interdisciplinary energy research and energy consumption: What, why, and how?

Journal Energy Research & Social Science

Volume 10

Pages / Article-Number 206-219

Keywords Energy consumption

Reducing energy demand and increasing energy efficiency are two major objectives that numerous national and international programs, such as the EU 20-20-20 targets, seek to achieve in the ongoing transformation of energy systems. Despite the predominately socio-economic nature of energy demand, such interdisciplinary viewpoints – albeit on the rise – are still the minority within energy-related research. In this paper, we develop an applied approach to support interdisciplinary research focusing on a common research objective which examines and clarifies the three questions: ‘What’, ‘Why’ and ‘How’. We test the capability of the approach by performing an exemplary review of energy demand both from an economics and a social-science perspective.

Publisher Elsevier

ISSN/ISBN 2214-6296

URL <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629615300244>

edoc-URL <http://edoc.unibas.ch/40284/>

Full Text on edoc No;

Digital Object Identifier DOI 10.1016/j.erss.2015.08.001

ISI-Number WOS:000218708600020

Document type (ISI) Review