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Are Ecodistricts an Example of Energy Territorialization ? An investigation of energy use in Parc Marianne, Montpellier and Olympic Village, Vancouver

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What does a sustainable energy system that reduces GHG emissions look like? Is it the Sahara Desert covered in solar panels generating electricity to densely packed high-rises - a de-territorialised energy system; or is it a small neighbourhood development (eco-district) with engaged residents that generate energy from local resources – a territorialized energy system? In a territorialized energy system, users and energy systems are closely linked geographically leading to greater ecological, economic, and political resilience. The current war in Ukraine provides a stark example of why a de-territorialized energy system is insecure and unsustainable. But are initiatives such as eco- districts, which claim to reduce GHGs using progressive technologies and measures, really territorialize energy? The question of the effectiveness of energy territorialization to reduce GHG emissions is explored through an international comparative case study analysis of two eco-districts : Parc Marianne in Montpellier, France and Olympic Village in Vancouver, Canada.

