

## **Resolving the conflict of greens between renewable energy development and wetland conservation**

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In the era of climate change, reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) through renewable energy is becoming a professed goal for many cities and nations. Given national/state level policies on green energy to achieve their GHG reduction targets, cities and states consider large scale renewable energy farms on remote public lands and rural areas to meet the energy needs. Although these renewable energy farms seem much “greener” than fossil fuel power plants, many of the sites that look abandoned and useless often are valuable ecosystems that serve as critical habitats for abundant wildlife, including endangered species. In addition to ecological impacts, rural communities oppose these green projects due to their social and economic impacts on living (e.g. fishermen whose livelihoods depend on impacted tidal flats and bays) and quality of life (e.g. noise, turbulence and aesthetic landscape disturbance from wind farms). The presentation will include the recent green conflicts in Southwest Taiwan, sharing case study alternatives, and conclude by posing a series of key questions of how we should proceed better.