

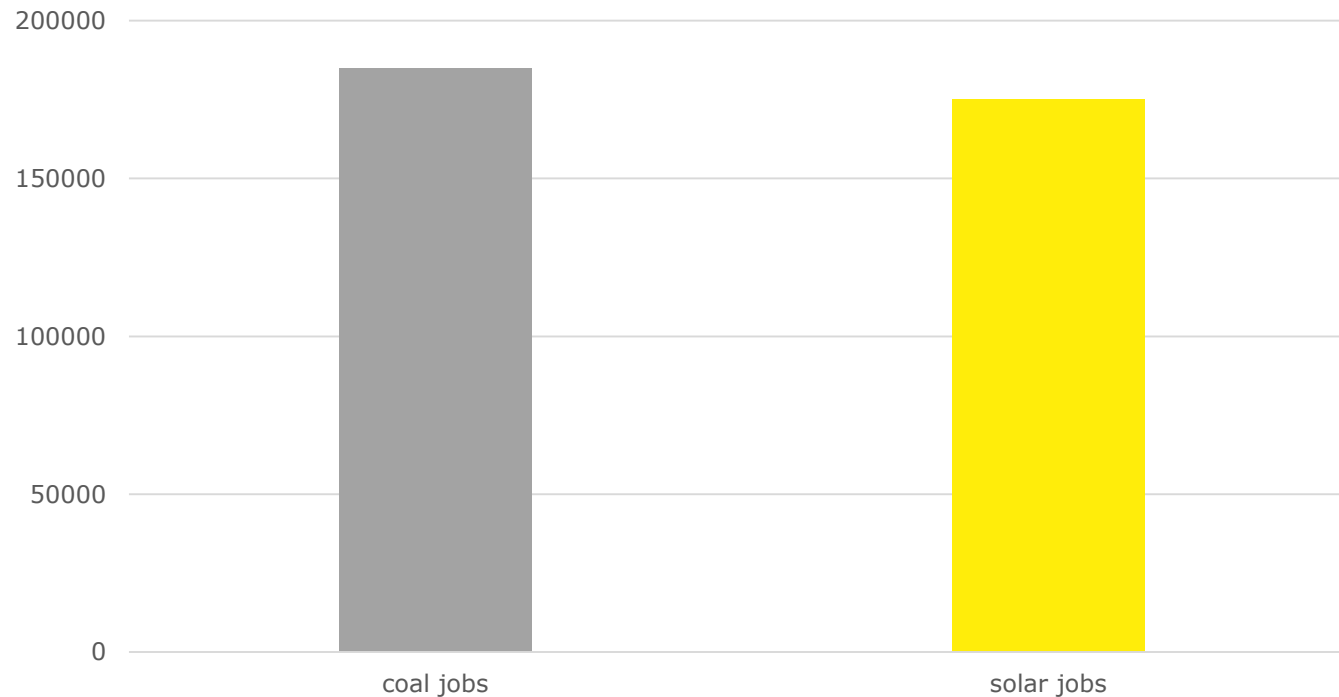
Solar Energy Potential in Coal Regions

Opportunities and challenges

James Watson
CEO, SolarPower Europe



The Opportunity of Solar for Coal Region Employment



41 regions in 12 Member States are actively mining coal, providing direct employment to about 185,000 citizens

Solar alone can create around 175,000 jobs per year in Europe by 2021

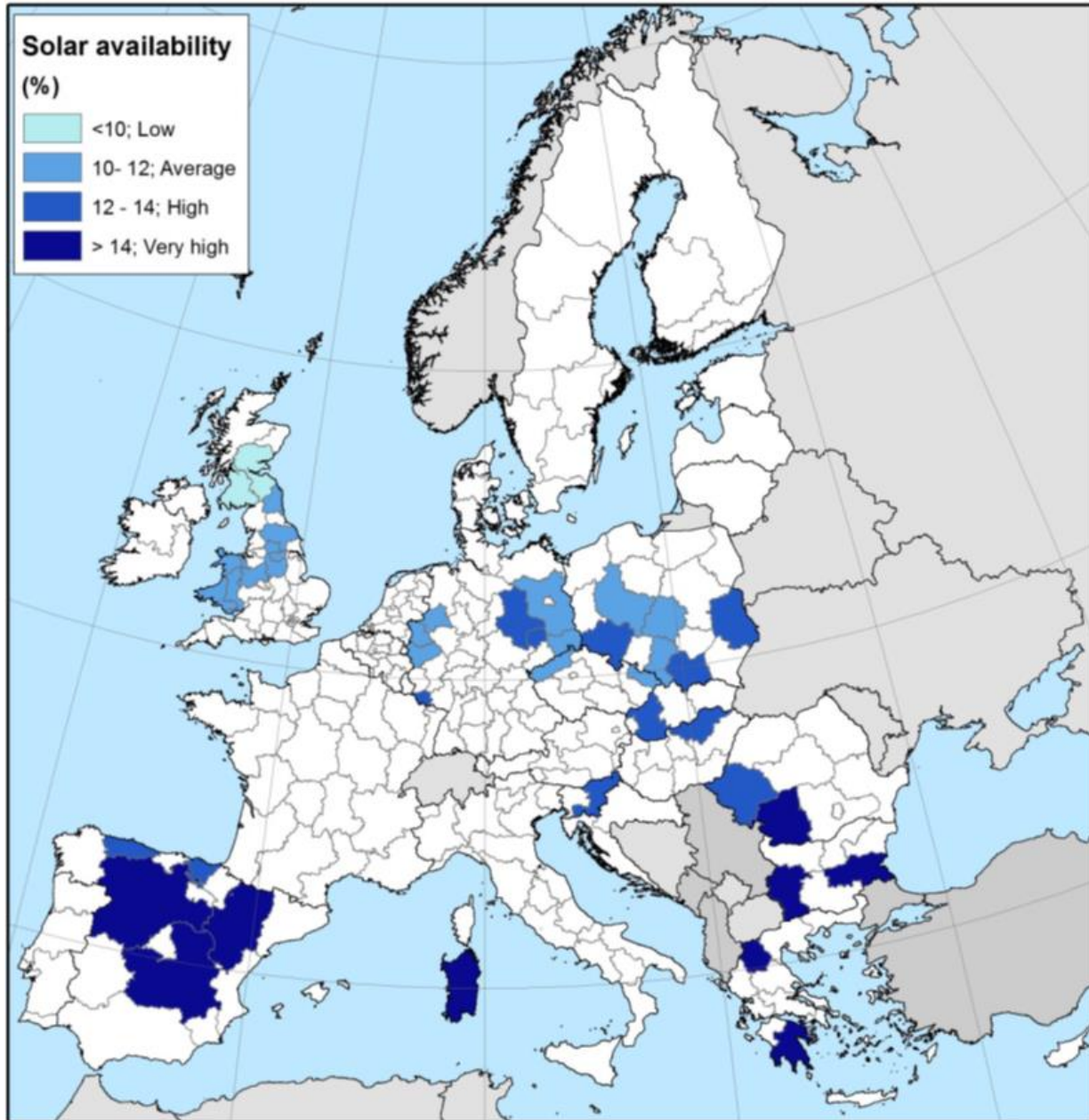
Solar highly suitable for employing former coal miners

Joint Research Centre Study EU Coal Regions: Opportunities and Challenges Ahead

Found that:

1. Solar is particularly suitable for re-employing former coal workers after adjustment of skills.
2. Electrical and mechanical skills, experience in working under difficult conditions and sophisticated safety experience have been valued highly by the solar PV sector.
3. That in terms of wages technical workers would make more in the solar industry than previously in coal.
4. Vocational training programmes such as VET in Germany support re-training for jobs such as a solar technician for coal miners

Solar Availability in Regions Hosting Coal Mining Infrastructure



Hungary – Heves County

Visonta Lignite Mine Project - Mátrai Erőmű

In 2015, Hungarian power plant company Mátrai Erőmű opened a solar power plant in Visonta in Hungary, which is situated on top of a lignite mine dump site and generates 16 MW of solar power.



Germany – Saarland

Grube Warndt Project – conducted by Baywa R.E.

The solar farm is 4MW and was built on the surface of a former coal mine in Saarland (“Grube Warndt”). The area was categorised as conversion area, which then was eligible under the German FIT at that time. This project dates back to 2012.



Contact: Dr. Benedikt Ortman (benedikt.ortmann@baywa-re.com)

Belgium - Limburg

Heusden-Zolder Project – conducted by LRM, Group Machiels and Izen

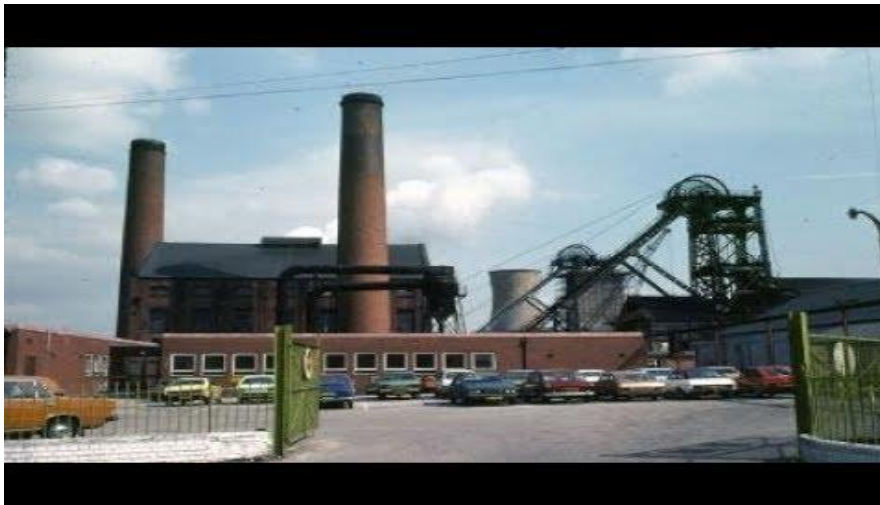
LRM was the owner of the sludge pond in Heusden-Zolder. When coal was being mined here, this was where rubble and fly ash were dumped. It was very difficult to find a suitable use for this site so LRM decided to transform the decontaminated land into a solar power plant – and so an ostensibly lost site acquired a new use.



Contact: Filip.Vercauteren@machiels.com

Askern Colliery Project – conducted by Anesco

The whole colliery site has been restored and remediated to a basic level. The site had some constraints including a high summit immediately south of the main site, existing informal walkways on the colliery Site. These challenges were overcome and the site successfully obtained all necessary development rights and was constructed efficiently and effectively.



Contact: Sarah.Hitchcox@anesco.co.uk

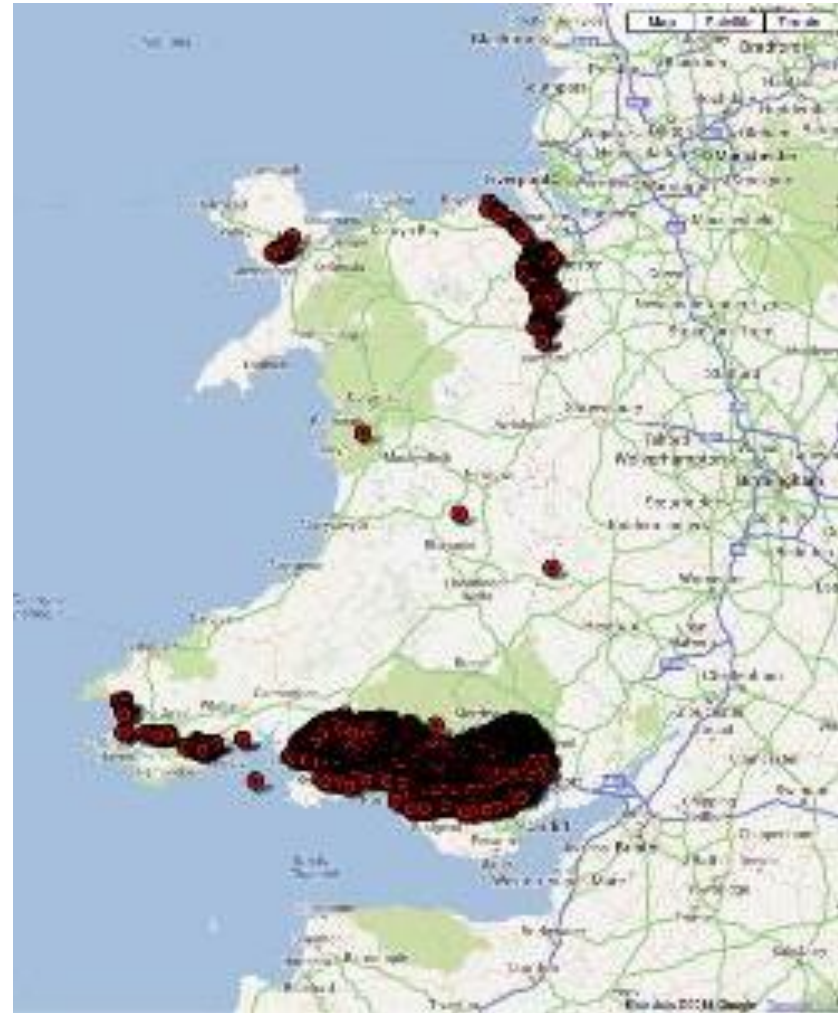
A View of the Past

Wales – Cymru

The defeat of the Unions in the 1984-85 Miners strike cost Wales 85,000 jobs, 25,000 direct.

"In such remote communities, the closures of schools and libraries, the end of bus services, the demolition of houses, the loss of a doctor from a practice, even the disappearance of a telephone kiosk, were all cumulative symptoms of a long-term decline." – Hywel Francis, Member of Parliament representing former Welsh mining valleys

Around 1000 workers remain in coal in Wales today



Life Beyond Coal

Wales - Cymru

"Communities always change, industries come and go. It was foolish of us to think at the end of the 1985 miners strike that it was the end of the world – it was an opportunity for a new beginning" – Hywel Francis, Member of Parliament representing former Welsh mining valleys

The Welsh Government, working for a fairer and more prosperous Wales

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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43% of Wales' electricity through renewables in 2016

Wales is making good progress towards its ambitious targets for clean energy as a new report published today reveals 43% of the country's electricity consumption in 2016 came from renewable energy – up from 32% the previous year.

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70% renewable electricity target set by ministers

26 September 2017

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New targets will help "decarbonise our energy system", says Lesley Griffiths

Wales should generate 70% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030, the Welsh Government has said.