



Kosher Electricity: Building Block or Stumbling Stone for Renewable Energy Transformation?

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Workshop: Transitions to a Low-Carbon Economy in Comparative Perspective”,
UAS Spring Campus ,April 02-03, 2019

Introduction

- Research puzzle and motivation
- Research question: is Kosher Electricity a building block or a stumbling stone for renewable energy transformation?
 - What is the position of religion concerning renewable energy change and sustainability?
 - Why are religious actors concerned by renewable transformation? And how do they act?
 - What is the impact of religion and religious actors on renewable transformation?
- Scant literature on the role of religion in energy transformation



What is Kosher Electricity?

- A problem related to the production of electricity during Shabbat and holidays
- Shabbat is a central pillar of the Jewish faith
- A problem of a sizable part of the population



Kosher Electricity: A Catalyst or a Barrier?

Short-term

Anti
renewable
energy

- Diesel generators
- Car batteries at home

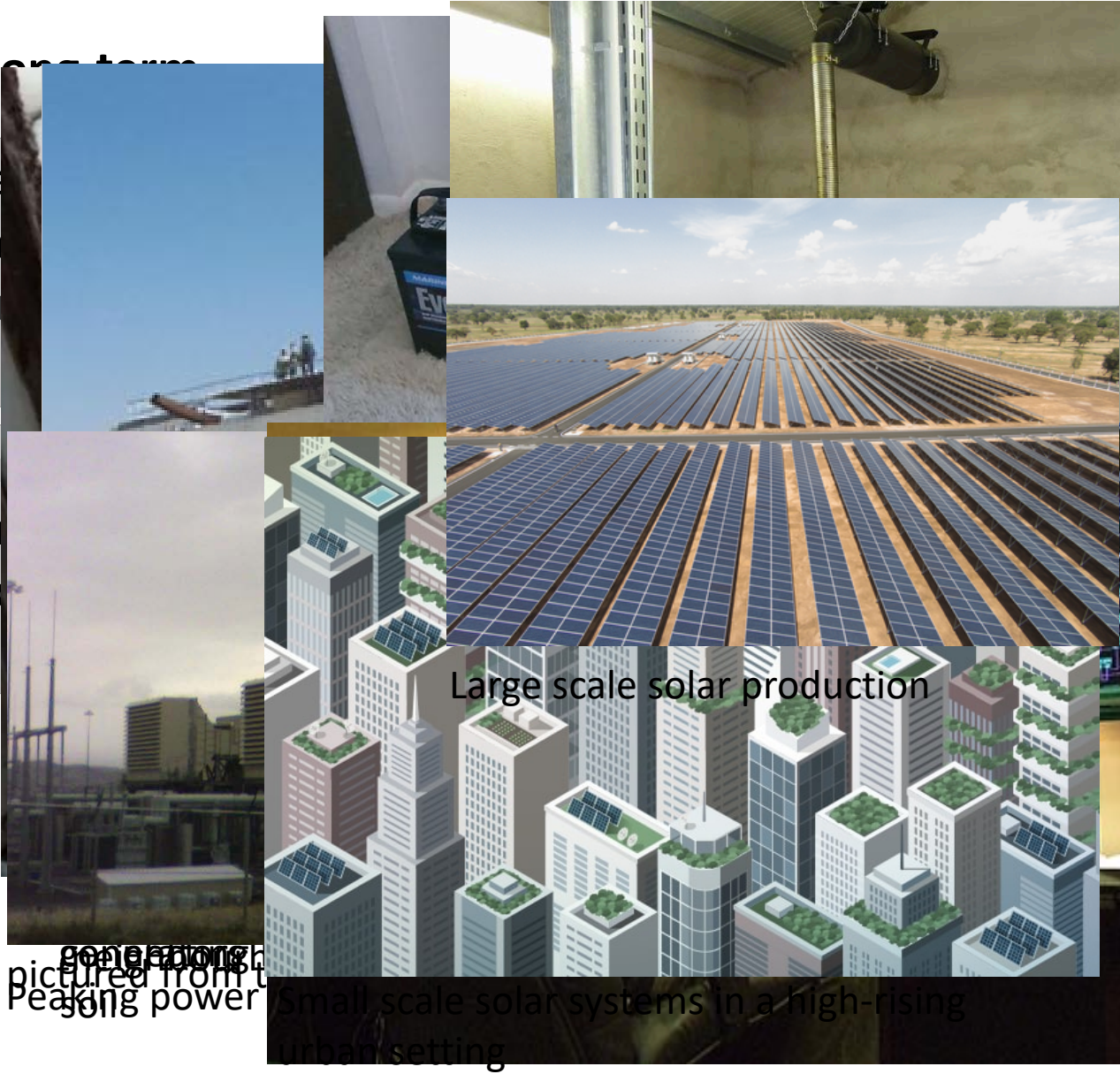
Pro
renewable
energy

- Small scale solar panels

Long-term

- Natural gas
- Peaking power
- Full automation

- Medium scale solar and wind production



Preliminary insights

- An exceptional case study? not necessarily.
- A social acceptance problem?
- A religious problem or a consumer problem?
- Limits to community self-segregation practices creates bottom-up pressure for political change
- Political opportunism of Ultra-Orthodox parties
- Transition to renewable energy is compatible with Judaism

Questions?

