

DIGITAL PERMITTING SOLUTION

30 GW

To meet the European Union's climate and energy security goals, the EU needs to build an average of 30 GW of wind energy every year until 2030. Today, we are only at 16 GW per year.

Source: WindEurope

To achieve this huge ambition, European Member States will need to activate several levers to reduce the time to operation for clean energy projects. Pre-reviewed renewable energy zones and corridors, shared infrastructure and expeditious processing of permit applications are needed including new ways to innovate, digitalize and collaborate.

WindEurope, Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Accenture have developed a digital permitting solution for use in European Member States.

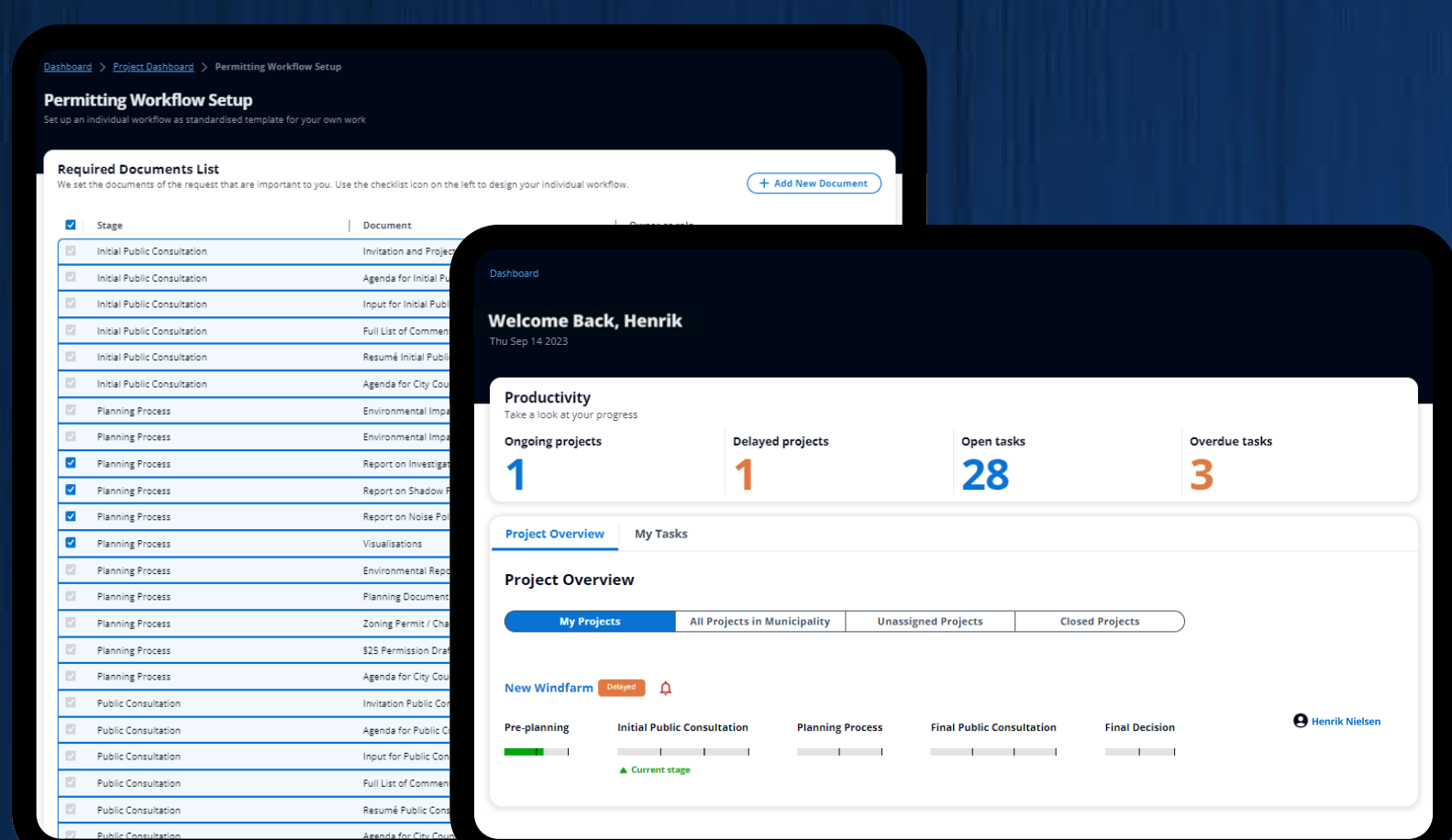
"I tested EasyPermits in our municipality, and so far I am quite impressed. It was eye-opening to see how existing technology can help to make the process more efficient for everyone: for me, for my colleagues, developers and also for community members that I engage with."

Jakob Hasselgreen
City Planning Official in the Danish municipality of Vesthimmerland

We aim to solve three key challenges for Henrik, the persona of a Permitting Agent.



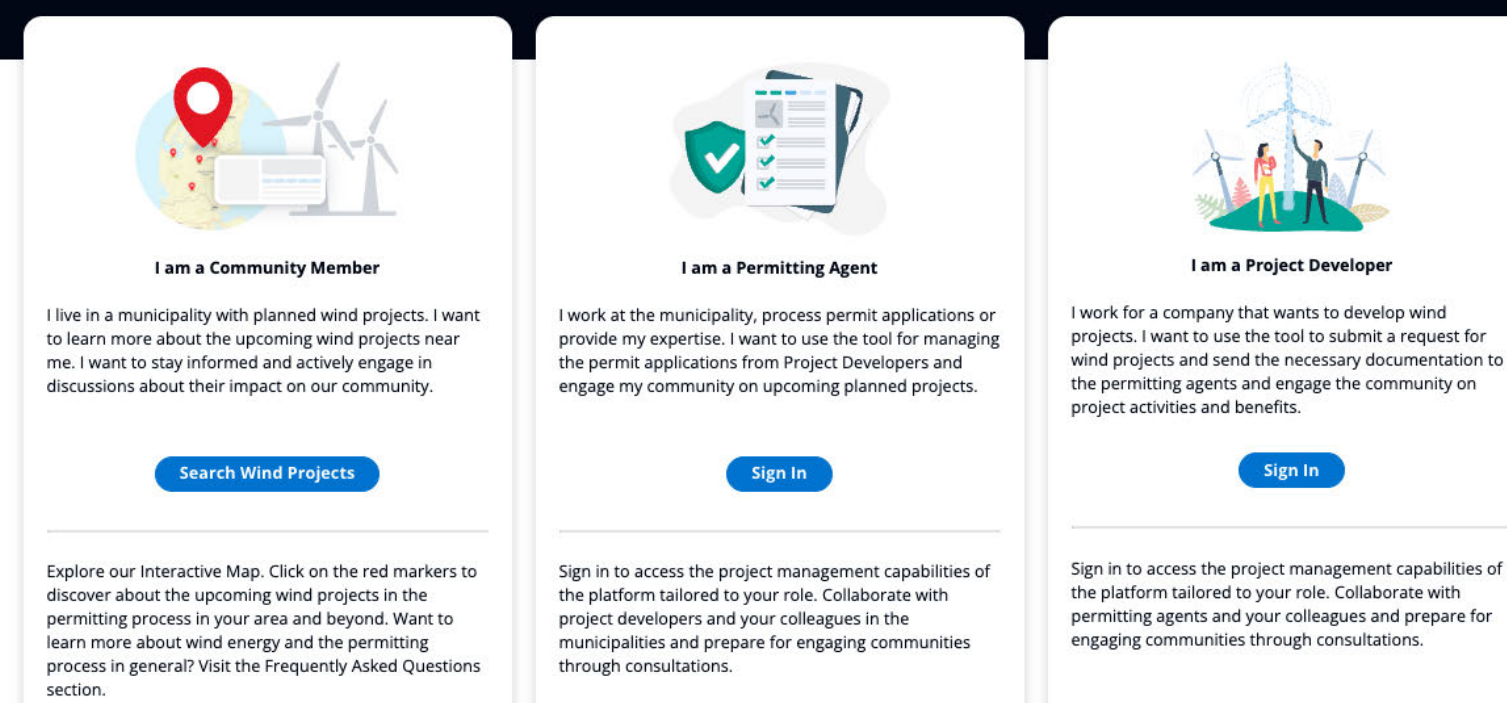
INTRODUCING EasyPermits®



Welcome To EasyPermits

EasyPermits is your digital one-stop shop for the onshore wind projects permitting process. With EasyPermits we are focused on streamlining the permitting process by improving information management, increasing transparency of the onshore wind farm permitting process and increasing collaboration between project developers, permitting agents as well as the community members.

EasyPermits is a web-based tool developed through a collaboration between WindEurope, Amazon Web Services and Accenture.



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

A permit application can be a couple of hundred pages long. Edits or updates are done via phone or email and then transferred onto the desktop. A lot of time is wasted just to keep everything organized.

Permitting agents are also faced with different files in different formats, via different channels, often with missing information. Exactly what type of information is needed for the projects is often hard to know.



We are simplifying Information Management.

Henrik can see everything he needs to know on his home screen dashboard. The solution is based on having submission templates, automated document checks, and notifications all within one central repository so that there is a single source of truth.

COLLABORATION

Permitting agents often have multiple permit applications to process on top of other responsibilities of their job at the local municipalities. In some Member States there are more than 80 different public bodies involved in permitting. Information about permit requirements is not easy to locate and is often incomplete, causing significant delays in processing.

In some Member States, the project developers have a similar challenge, needing to correspond with several different public agencies for gathering all the permits for a single project.

We are simplifying Collaboration.

Each permit application has a dedicated dashboard that gives Henrik a quick overview of that permit application.

It enables Henrik to assign responsibilities and deadlines and it creates automated notifications to his colleagues in the different public agencies about updates. He can see the status of each task and who it belongs to, which helps to keep track of everyone's activities and holds everyone accountable to a shared goal.

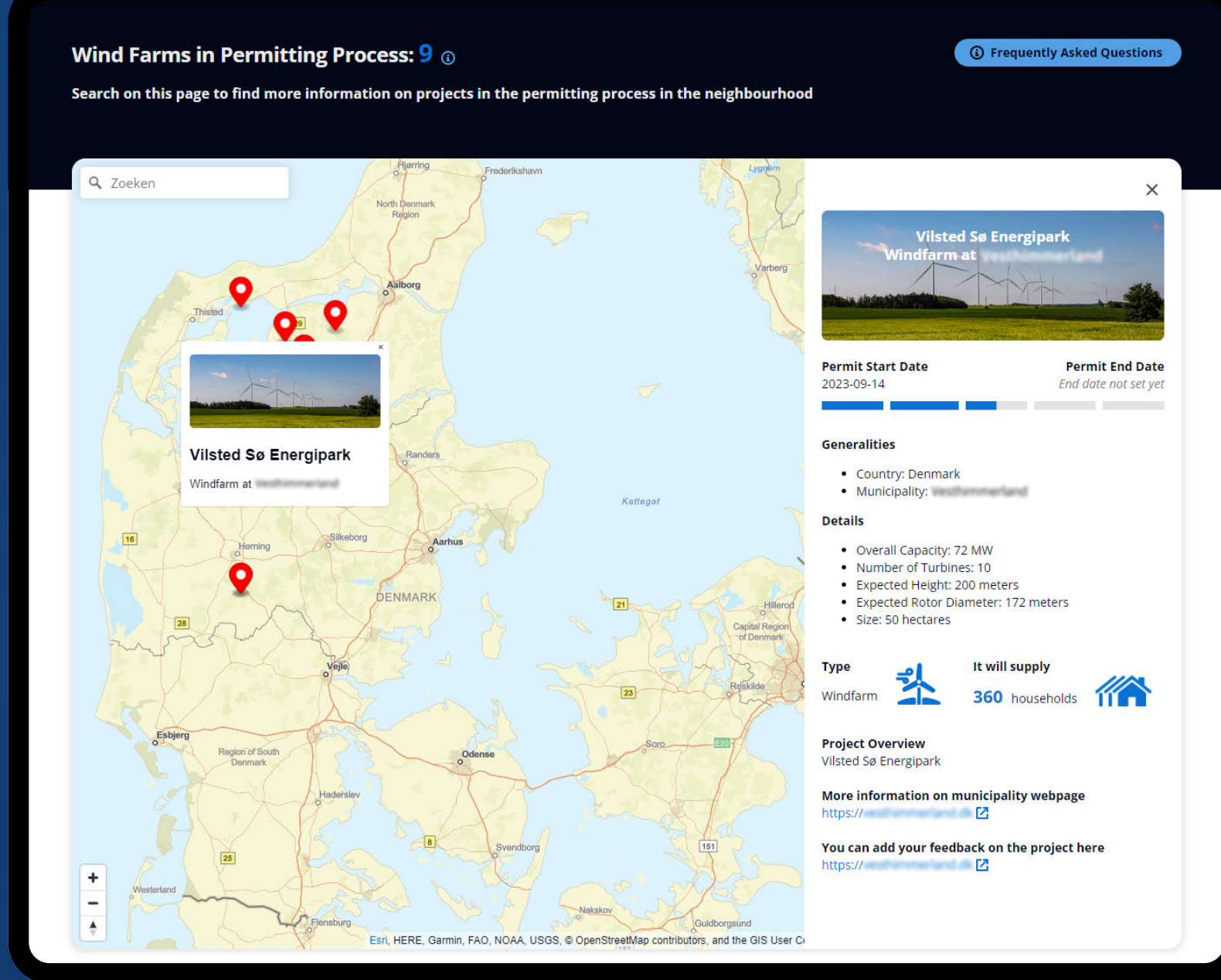
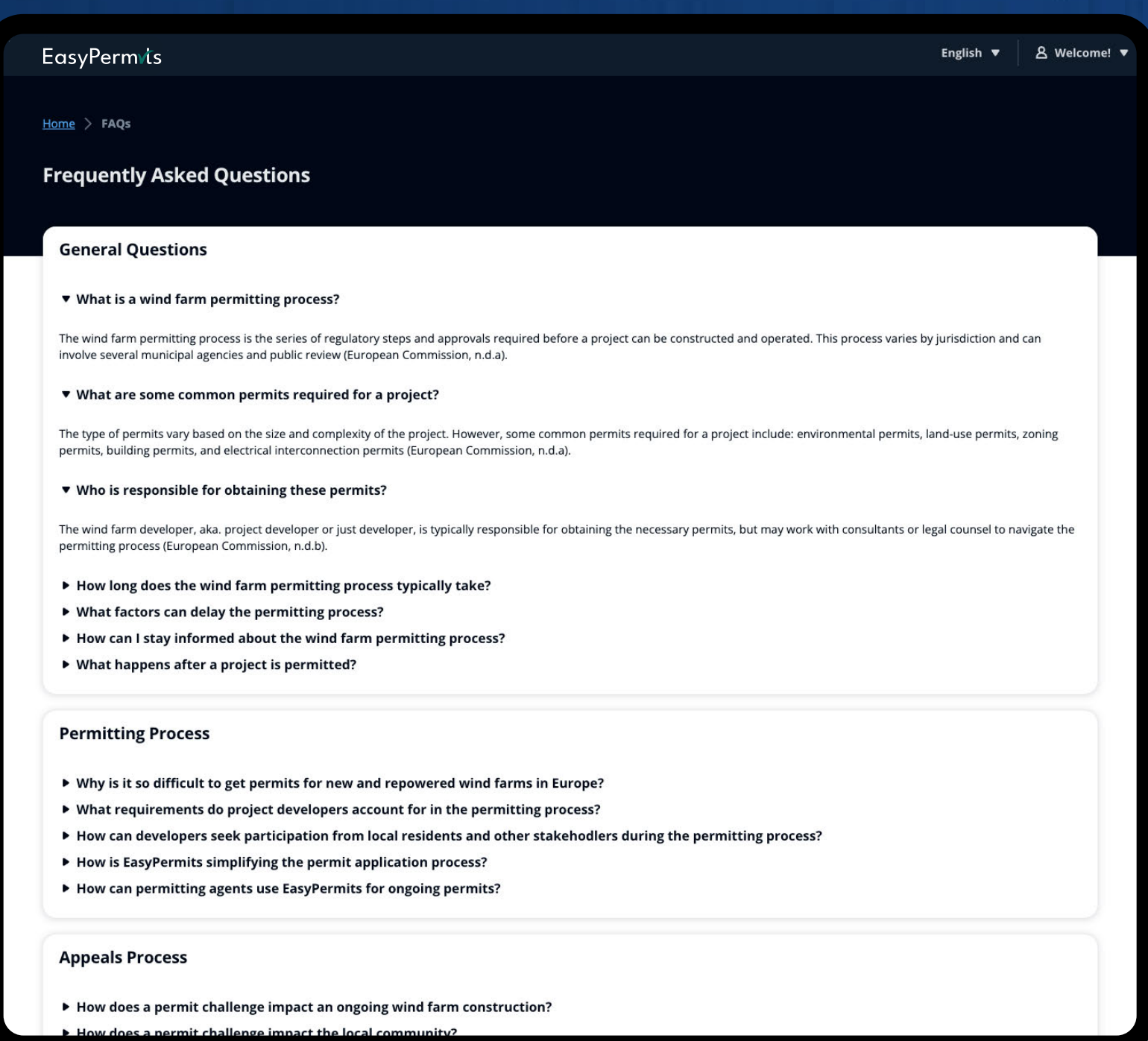
Collaborators for a permit application can also interact with each other and answer questions / review comments on a particular document in real time while it is stored in one single repository.

PROCESS TRANSPARENCY

Transparency for a permitting agent means having a single overview of the most urgent and important items needing attention by themselves or key collaborators, as well as key bottlenecks along the critical path.

Transparency towards external stakeholders is also important.

Currently it is difficult for the permitting agent to provide a status update for the projects in pipeline both to the project developers, as well as the general public. Sharing information of the planned projects and the impact they might have on the local community is an important role of the permitting agent.



We are simplifying Process Transparency.

The community members can easily see the relevant details of the planned projects. There is also an FAQ answering the generic questions giving Henrik more time to focus on the permit applications.

Proactively making the status transparent fosters a collaborative spirit, and enhances engagement of all relevant stakeholders such as local communities, environmental groups, local municipal councils throughout the whole process.

Social acceptance is key to accelerating the pace of the clean energy transition and transparency of the pros and cons to those most impacted will help.

*All sample solution data presented in this infographic is entirely fictitious and used for illustrative purposes only.

CONTACT US



Malgosia Bartosik
malgosia.bartosik@windeurope.org



Carol Yan
yancarol@amazon.co.uk



Kris Timmermans
kris.x.timmermans@accenture.com