



Michiel Van Dam
Distributed Systems
Operator Architect



Michiel is an innovator and designer of the future energy grid at Enexis, one of the largest grid operators in the Netherlands. Trained as an industrial engineer at the University of Groningen he uses his analytical systems design thinking, creativity and a strong drive for a more sustainable energy system to develop future outlooks, research programs and pilots concerning the role of the grid operator in the energy transition. In his nine years at Enexis his focus has been on the introduction of renewable gasses such as biomethane as well as the smart integration of gas, electricity and heat. This all to provide the flexibility needed to provide a reliable, sustainable and affordable energy system. Together with his team at Enexis he strives to enable customers to freely produce, store, trade and consume renewable energy, while keeping the general public interests in mind.

<https://www.enexisgroep.com>



Linda Steg
Professor of Environmental
Psychology



Linda's research focuses on understanding factors influencing sustainable behavior, the effects and acceptability of strategies aimed to encourage sustainable behavior, and how and why acting sustainably affects wellbeing. She is a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and previously served as president of Division 4 'Environmental Psychology' of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP).

<https://www.rug.nl/staff/e.m.steg/research>





Steph Johnson Zawadzki
PhD Candidate



Steph is a PhD candidate at the University of Groningen. Her research aims to promote public engagement with integrated energy systems. As part of an interdisciplinary team, she examines both motivational and contextual factors that influence ESI-related behaviors and policy preferences. Her current projects include understanding how and when engaging with the energy transition can make people happier and, conversely, why happiness might increase sustainable energy use.

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Thijs Bouman
Postdoctoral Researcher



Thijs' research focuses on understanding personal and social motives behind people's sustainable behaviours. Thijs is particularly interested in the influence of social contexts on individual's energy beliefs and actions. For instance, how do perceptions of other individuals (e.g., household members, colleagues), groups and the media influence the energy behaviours someone engages in? Moreover, his research focuses on how people and smart energy technologies interact with each other. Thijs completed his PhD in Social Psychology in 2016, for which he focused on group processes and communication. He is currently working on national and EU-funded projects aiming at understanding and changing household energy behaviours, beliefs and choices. In addition, Thijs advises the European Commission's Joint Research Center on the Project "Societal Appreciation of Security of Energy Supply".

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Goda Perlaviciute
Assistant professor
Environmental psychology

Goda's research focuses on public evaluations and acceptability of energy sources, systems, and policies. She studies general factors that drive these evaluations and acceptability judgements, such as people's values and important contextual factors. Goda focuses on theory development and applying theory in addressing pressing environmental and energy problems.

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