

Wind Energ. Sci. Discuss., referee comment RC2
<https://doi.org/10.5194/wes-2021-54-RC2>, 2021
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Comment on wes-2021-54

Anonymous Referee #2

Referee comment on "A simplified, efficient approach to hybrid wind and solar plant site optimization" by Charles Tripp et al., Wind Energ. Sci. Discuss.,
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The paper on 'A Simplified, Efficient Approach to Hybrid Wind and Solar Plant Site Optimization' is very timely and relevant for increasing interest on hybrid power plants. The reviewer would like to thank the authors for very nice paper and well written. The design and solving of the problem is very complex and the authors needed to reduce the complexity of the problem like they have done.

However, the reviewer has a major concern regarding the objective of the paper. Although maximizing AEP can be a objective for wind-solar hybrids by minimizing the land use, however, in majority of the hybrids around the world, the main constraint is the grid interface. With a limited grid connecting, maximizing AEP may not be the optimal criterion and maximizing the utilization of grid connection while minimizing the land use can be useful. The authors are requested to include comments on how to deal such a situation. If the authors feel this is out of the scope of the paper, the commenst can be added as a future work.

Another minor concern can be about the application of the proposed methodology when the land also include restricted zone, can the proposed methodology be still applied? How to handle such scenarios?