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Abstract

Power Struggles A Geographical Conflict Analysis of New York's Electricity Imports From Quebec

The thesis investigates the strategies of different actors related to conflicts created by New York State's power imports from Quebec, Canada. It focuses on the proponents of the scheme, mainly in the electricity industry and government domains, as they react to the resistance against the import contracts. Similarly, the network of opponents is being investigated. From a constructivist perspective and mainly based on GIDDENS' concept of regionalisation and WERLEN's transfer into social geography, different spaces of action are distinguished. These socially constructed spaces are continuously redefined and occupied by the actors. Thus, the conflict must not only be described as a struggle about control over physical space; conflict is also being interpreted as a fight over a set of socially constructed (economic, political ...) spaces. Thus, these spaces determine the emergence and the unfolding of conflict, structure its course and are again conflict results.