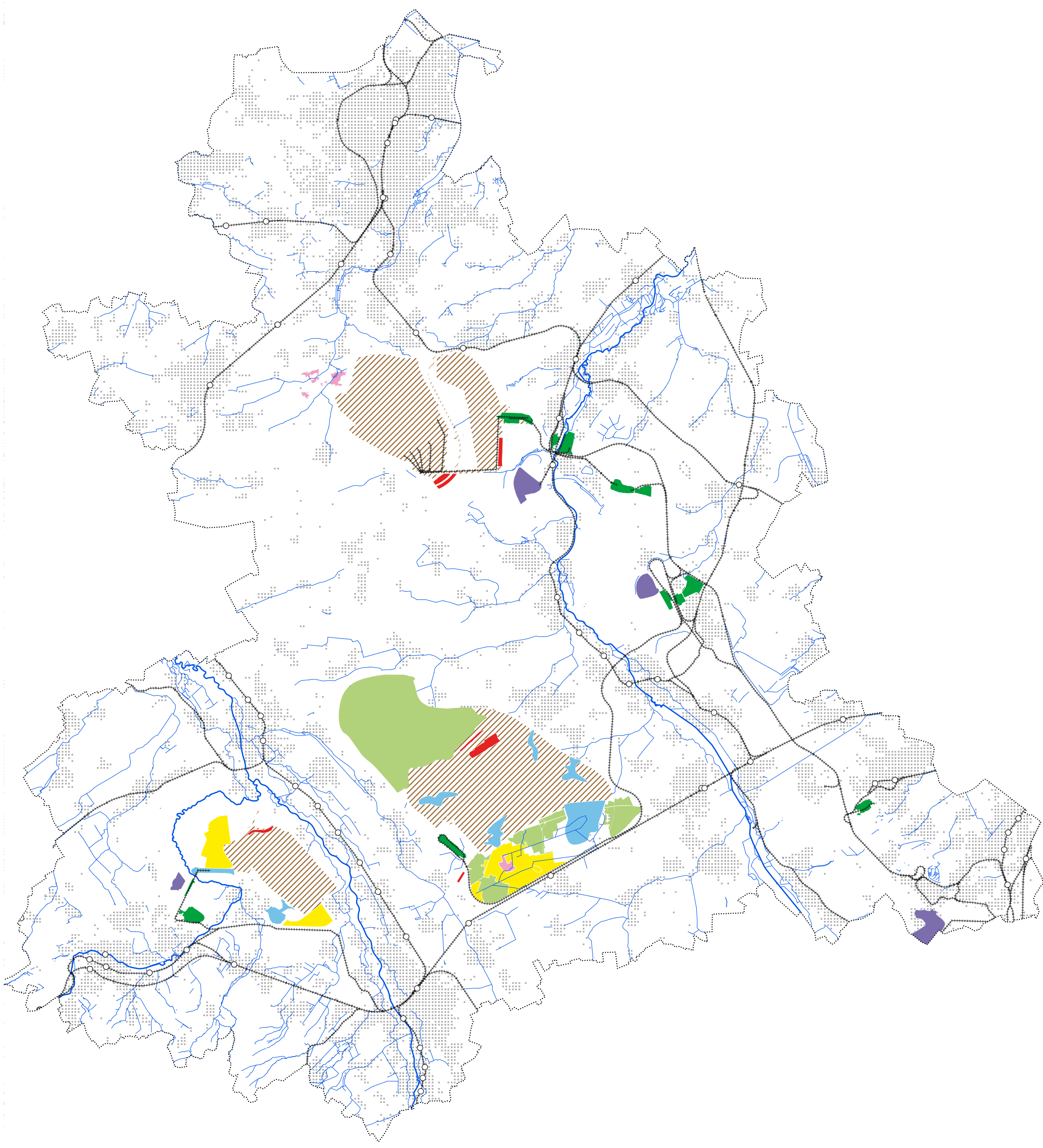


PASS THIS ON
Protocols and Fictions for
Ruins of Coal Extraction
in Germany

Isabel Grohe
Hanna Lindenberg

Three Case Studies
PASS THIS ON

- Existing
Reuse/Recycle
New
Biobased
Earthwork
Demolished
Under Deconstruction



Ruins of Extraction
Rheinisches Revier, Germany

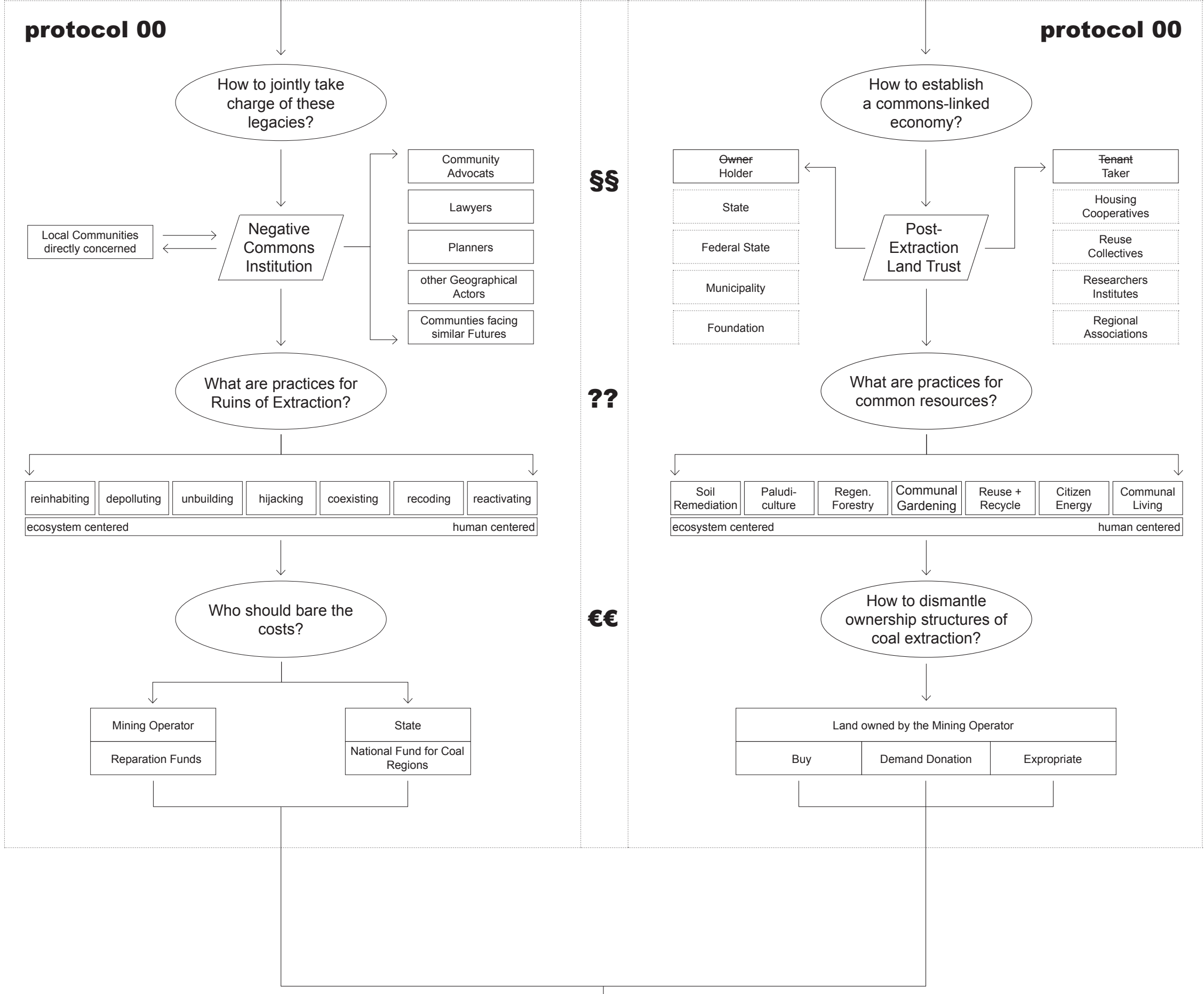
Extractive
Ground Politics
of Commons

Negative Commons

Positive Commons

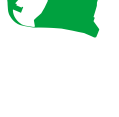
... in the Anthropocene

... in Industrialized Society



Ground Politics of Commons
Diagram

protocol 01



Frimmersdorf
DE-41517 Grevenbroich
Abandoned since 2020
1 Power Plant (75 ha)
1 Machine Building under Heritage Protection (60'000 m2)
1 Gate House under Heritage Protection (900 m2)

Ownership Structures

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Current owner RWE sells to LGG
2) LGG sells to private investors

Post-Extraction Land Trust
1) Current owner RWE donates to Feder State NRW
2) Federal State NRW leases to Reuse Cooperatives/Firms
3) Potential Lease Takers: Reuse Cooperatives / Firms
(e.g. Baukreisel e.V. / Rotor DC)

Action Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Demolition of most facilities except heritage buildings
2) Gate Center = Technology and Innovation Campus

Unbuilding as Counter Practice
1) Progressive Unbuilding of Facilities except Heritage Buildings
2) Streaming of the Unbuilding Process to make it Public
3) Cataloging the Disassembled Material for Reuse
4) Recoding the Machine Building for Sorting + Storing material
5) Recoding the Coal Trench for Recycling Debris

Financial Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Management: Frimmersdorf LGG
2) Investment: Private Actors

Donation of a Ruin of Extraction
1) Federal State NRW donates donation from RWE
2) Funding: Reparation Funds of Mining Operator (amount unknown) / National Structural Transition Fund (65ME for Frimmersdorf) / International Building & Technology Exhibition (2,78E total) / Bundesstiftung Baukultur

* <https://www.grevenbroich.de/wirtschaftsrahmenplan-kraftwerk-frimmersdorf>

Ownership Structures

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Current owner RWE sells to Municipality of Merzenich
2) Municipality leases properties as land trusts of 99 years

Post-Extraction Land Trust
1) Current owner RWE donates to Municipality of Merzenich
2) Municipality leases houses as land trusts of 99 years
3) Potential Lease Takers: housing cooperatives / groups of former inhabitants or other private persons

Action Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) A Village for 2500 inhabitants
2) Density + Green + Benefit to be determined

Reactivating as Counter Practice
1) No Fences, No Plots
2) Renovation + Extension of 180 Houses
3) Reconfiguration of Houses and Living
4) Wall as Tool for Domestic + Neighbour Infrastructure
5) Assemblies of Reuse and Non-Extractive Materials

Financial Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
Funding: Municipality of Merzenich (Structural Transition, 90M €) / International Building & Technology Exhibition (2,78 € total)

Purchase of a Ruin of Extraction
1) Municipality of Merzenich buys from RWE
2) Same Funding, different allocation: Subsidised Renovation / Communal Energy + Water Infrastructure / Communal Garden

* Zukunftswerkstatt Merzenich, Bürgewald - Fachplanerisches Zukunftsbild, Vorstudie zum Masterplan Bürgewald, 2024

protocol 02



Bürgewald
DE-52399 Merzenich
Abandoned since 2015
160 Properties, 463 Inhabitants (2014)
~ 2-3 Inhabitants per Property (2014)

Ownership Structures

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Current owner RWE donates to state
2) State leases landscape + jetty as land trust of 999 years
3) Potential Lease Takers: Forschungsinstitut Reaktivierung / LVR Landschaftsverband Rheinland (maintenance) / Institute for Post-Natural Studies (research)

Post-Extraction Land Trust
1) Current owner RWE donates to state
2) State leases landscape + jetty as land trust of 999 years
3) Potential Lease Takers: Forschungsinstitut Reaktivierung / LVR Landschaftsverband Rheinland (maintenance) / Institute for Post-Natural Studies (research)

Action Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Future uses e.g. train: nature reserve harbour, beach

Hijacking as Counter Practice
1) Groundwater Pumps reimagined as Wetland Fountains
2) Earthwork by Extraction Machinery for a Post-Natural Landscape
3) Jetty Assembly with Reuse and Non-Extractive Materials
4) Paludiculture as Form of Careful Coexistence
5) Following Non-Human Timescales instead of Lake Promises

Financial Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Funding: Reparation Funds of Mining Operator (amount unknown) / National Structural Transition Fund (amount unknown)
2) Investment: Private Actors

Expatriation of a Ruin of Extraction
1) State expropriates Mining Operator
2) Funding: Reparation Funds of Mining Operator (amount unknown) / International Building & Technology Exhibition (2,78 € total) / Bauhaus Earth (Fellowship) / EU SER Grant for Endangered Landscapes (5 Mio €)

* Neuland Hambach GmbH, Rahmenplan Hambach, 2024

protocol 03



Manheim
DE-50170 Kerpen
Under Extraction until 2025
Ground Water Pumping (since ~ 2015)
Forest Cutting + Expropriations (since ~ 2015)
Extraction of gravel (since 2024)

Ownership Structures

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Current Ownership of RWE remains unchanged
2) Future Ownership to be determined

Post-Extraction Land Trust
1) Current owner RWE donates to state
2) State leases landscape + jetty as land trust of 999 years
3) Potential Lease Takers: Forschungsinstitut Reaktivierung / LVR Landschaftsverband Rheinland (maintenance) / Institute for Post-Natural Studies (research)

Action Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Future uses e.g. train: nature reserve harbour, beach

Hijacking as Counter Practice
1) Groundwater Pumps reimagined as Wetland Fountains
2) Earthwork by Extraction Machinery for a Post-Natural Landscape
3) Jetty Assembly with Reuse and Non-Extractive Materials
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Financial Plan

Masterplan 2024⁴
1) Funding: Reparation Funds of Mining Operator (amount unknown) / National Structural Transition Fund (amount unknown)
2) Investment: Private Actors

Expatriation of a Ruin of Extraction
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* Neuland Hambach GmbH, Rahmenplan Hambach, 2024