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**Diversity and activity of bats at two planned wind energy plants:  
baseline data for site selection**

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Unexpectedly high numbers of bat fatalities reported at wind energy sites have heightened the urgency to optimize wind farm site selection. In the present study, we evaluated two planned wind energy sites with regard to bat diversity and activity. Simultaneous recordings of bat calls on ground and with zeppelins at blade height at wind turbine sites and control locations revealed that bats foraged up to 150m height but activity on the ground and in altitudes did not always coincide. Selection of wind energy sites should take bat activity into consideration in order to minimize the potential impact of wind turbines on bats.