The Impact and Performance of Industrial Sites
Evidence from the Netherlands

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Local economic development policies in the Netherlands and other industrialized countries have become the main driver for the supply of industrial land. Industrial sites are a valuable place to locate new firms, and can be considered important contributors to the local economy. But industrial sites also bear negative externalities such as noise, traffic, and industrial odors. These negative elements make the industrial site an attractive location for the worst polluters, which can lead to environmental pollution and health problems for the inhabitants. Consequently, the negative impacts on the environment and the health of industrial sites on their vicinity is serious. This essay aims to portray the negative impacts.

More specifically, the essay addresses the nature and scope of external impacts on economic activities on industrial sites. Furthermore, issues on the underlying determinants of local industrial site provision, such as spatial location characteristics and strategic competitive behavior between the two municipalities.

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