

DIGITAL PERMITTING SOLUTION

31 GW

To meet the European Union's climate and energy security goals, the EU needs to build an average of 31 GW of renewable energy every year until 2030. Today, we are only at 16 GW per year.

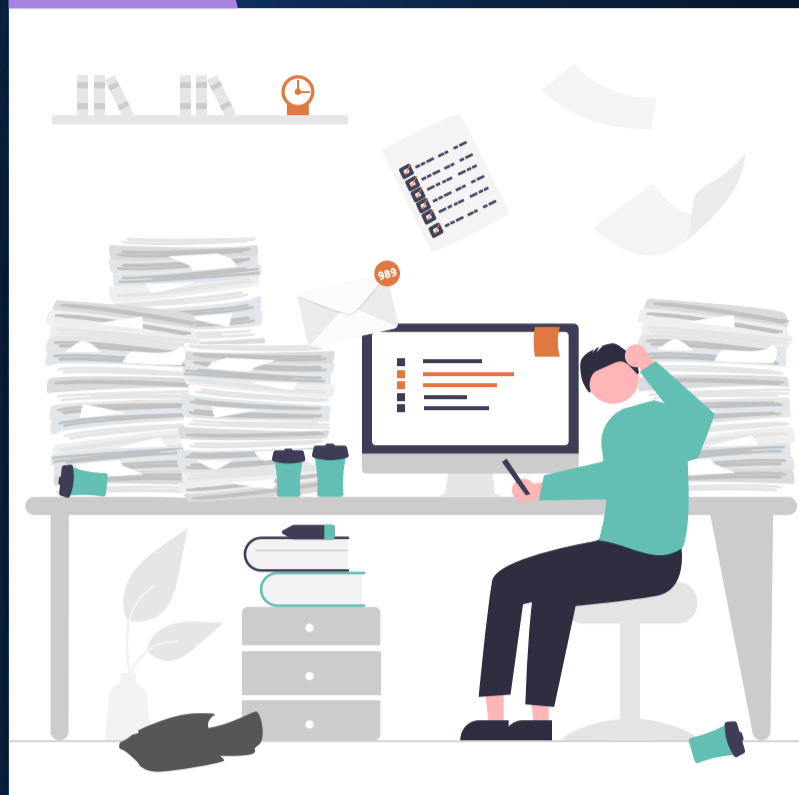
To achieve this huge ambition, European Member States will need to activate several levers to reduce the time to operation for clean energy projects. Pre-reviewed renewable energy zones and corridors, shared infrastructure and expeditious processing of permit applications are needed including new ways to innovate, digitalize and collaborate.

WindEurope, Amazon Web Services (AWS), the World Economic Forum and Accenture are collaborating on a digital permitting solution to bring new ways to solve for an age-old industry challenge.

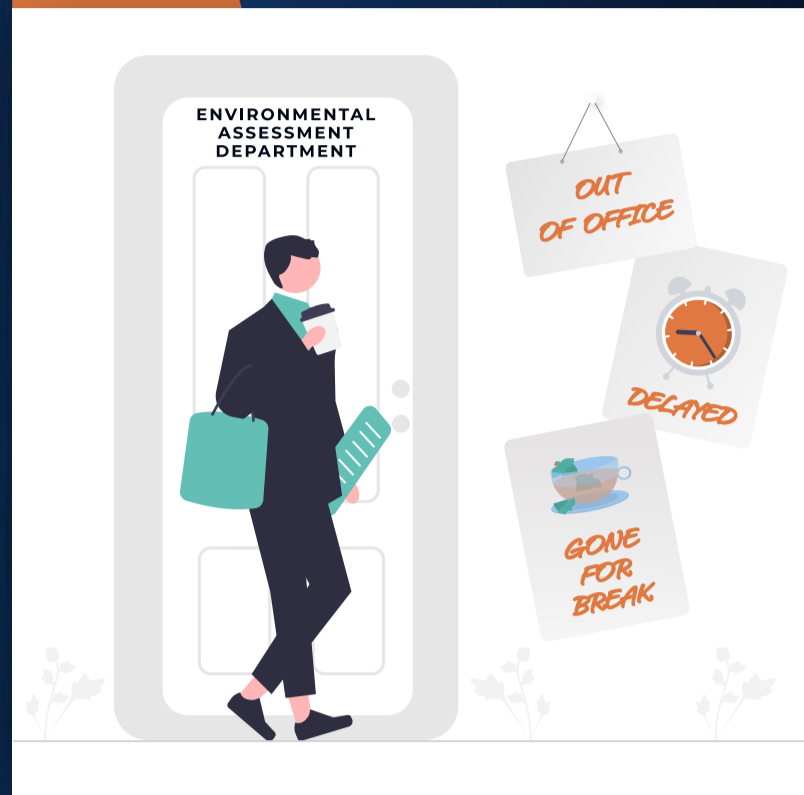
We have taken the lens of a permitting agent working at the municipal permit granting authority to solve for his pain points when processing permit applications for onshore wind farms.

The persona of Henrik is based on 100s of hours of workshops and interviews with a permitting agent from a Danish municipality. We aim to solve three key challenges.

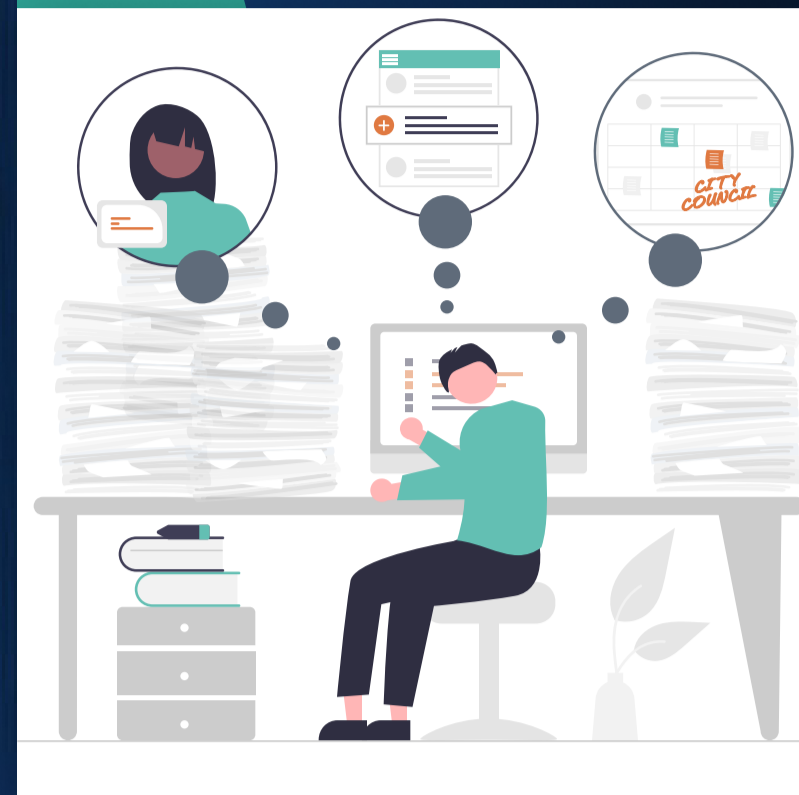
01 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



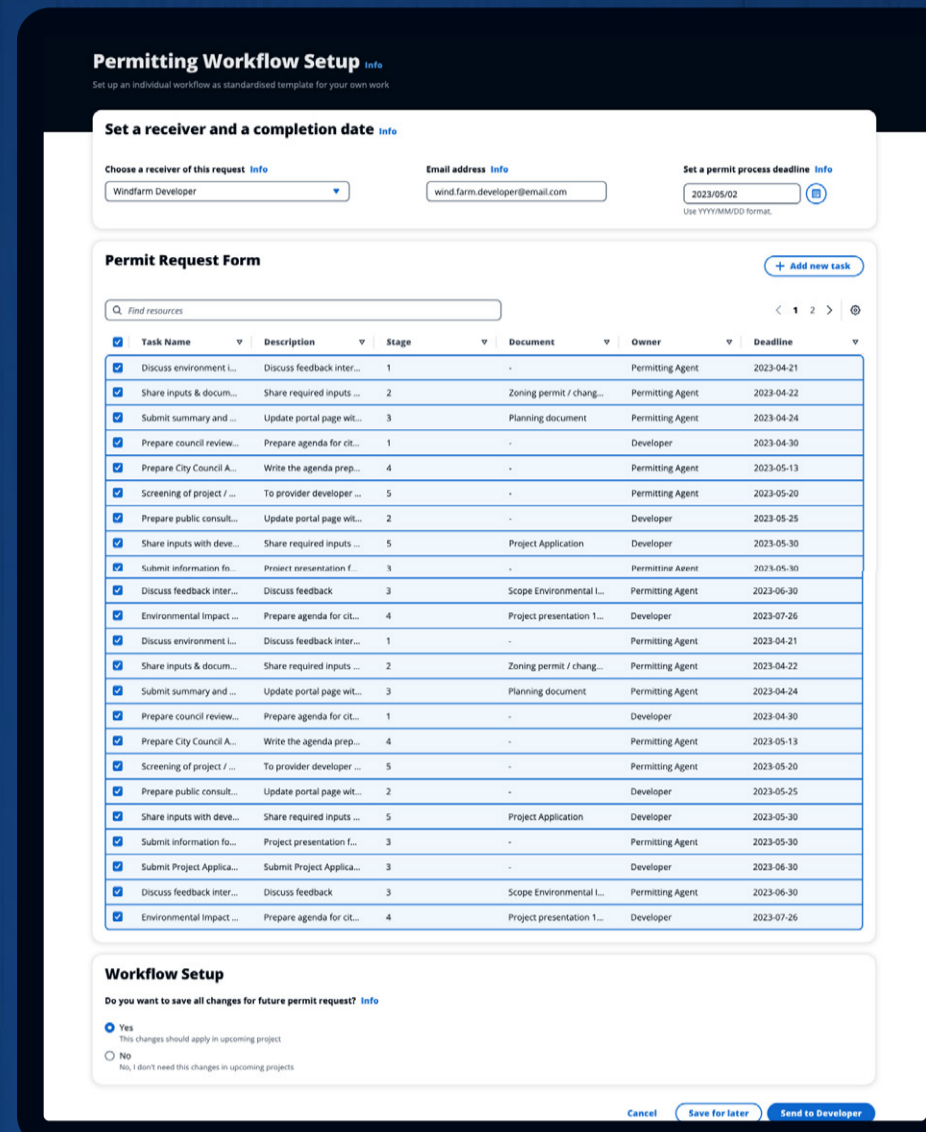
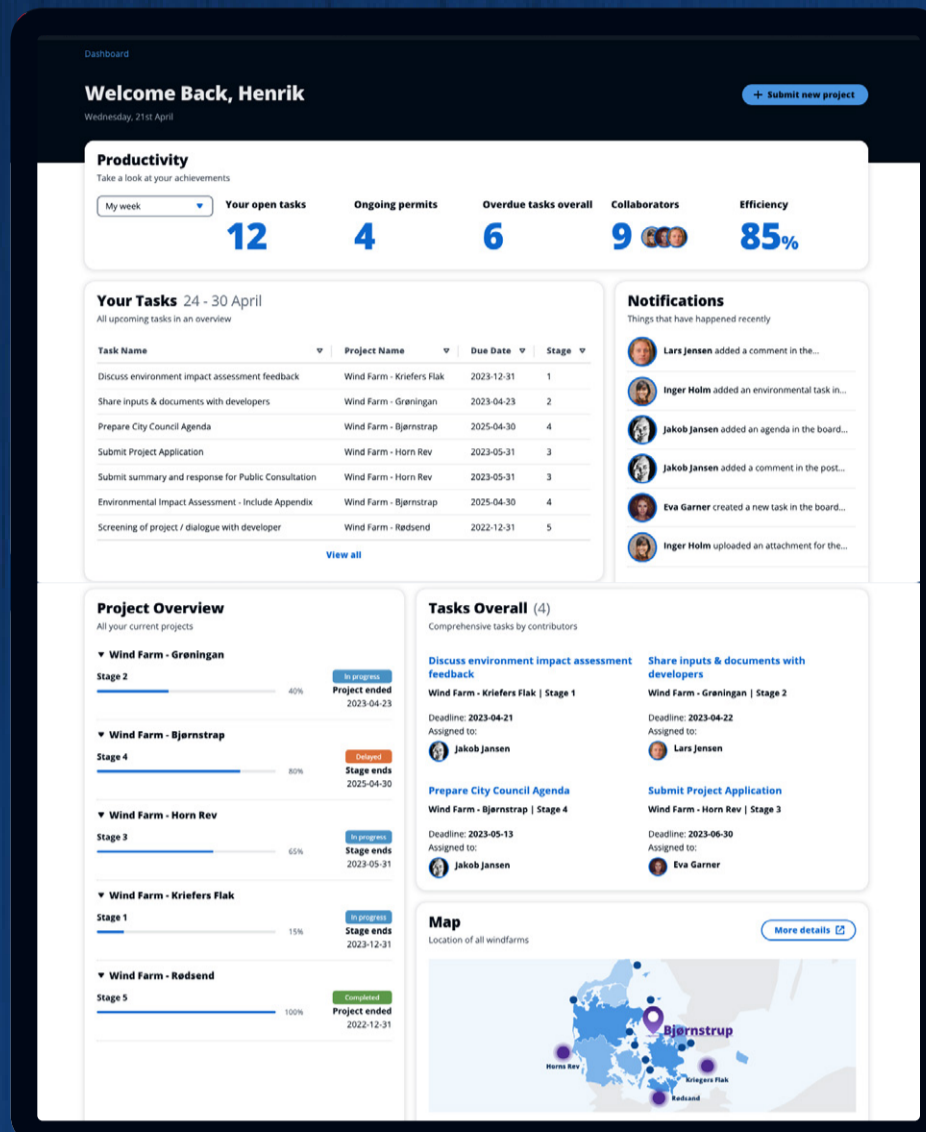
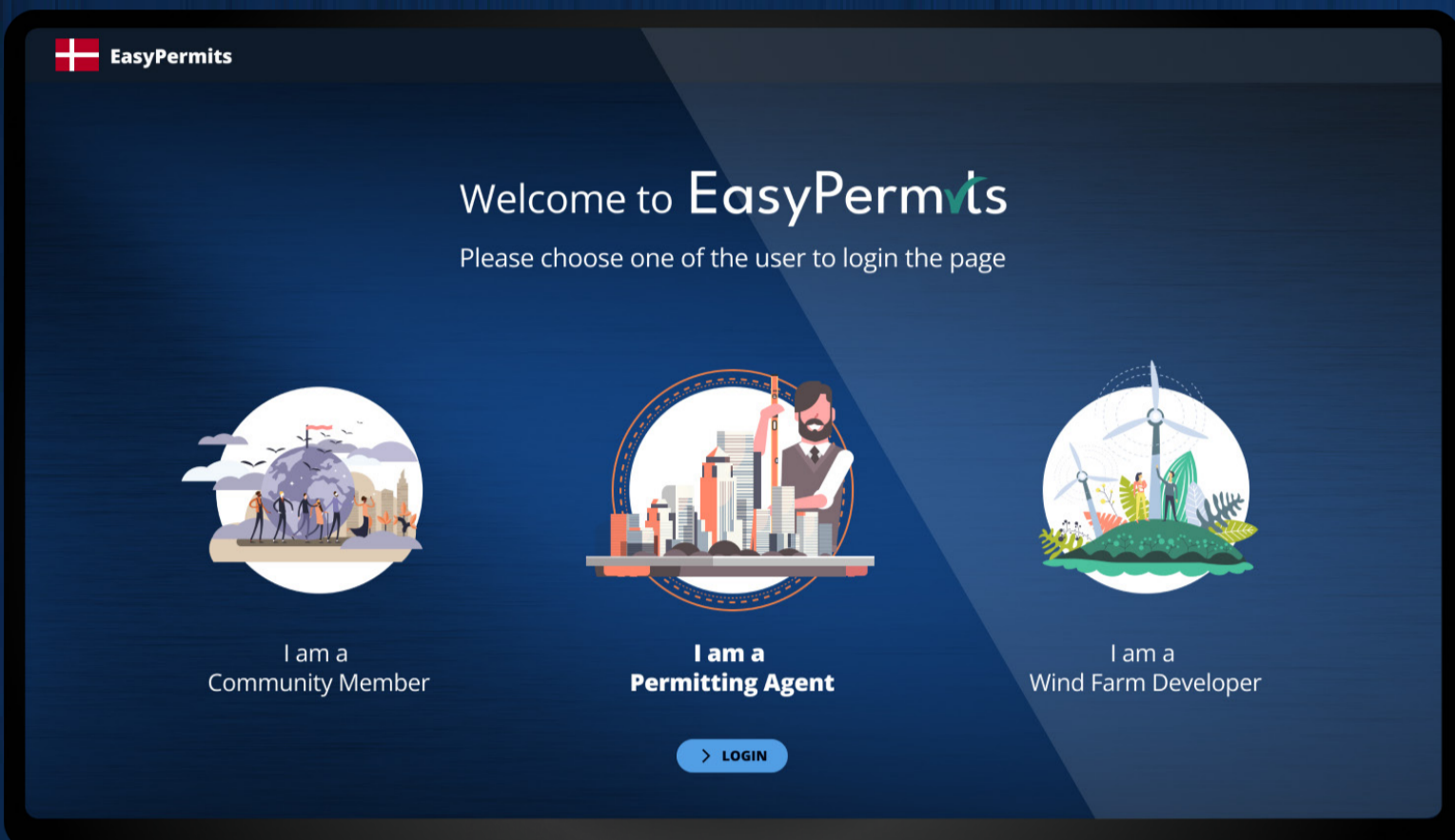
02 COLLABORATION



03 PROCESS TRANSPARENCY



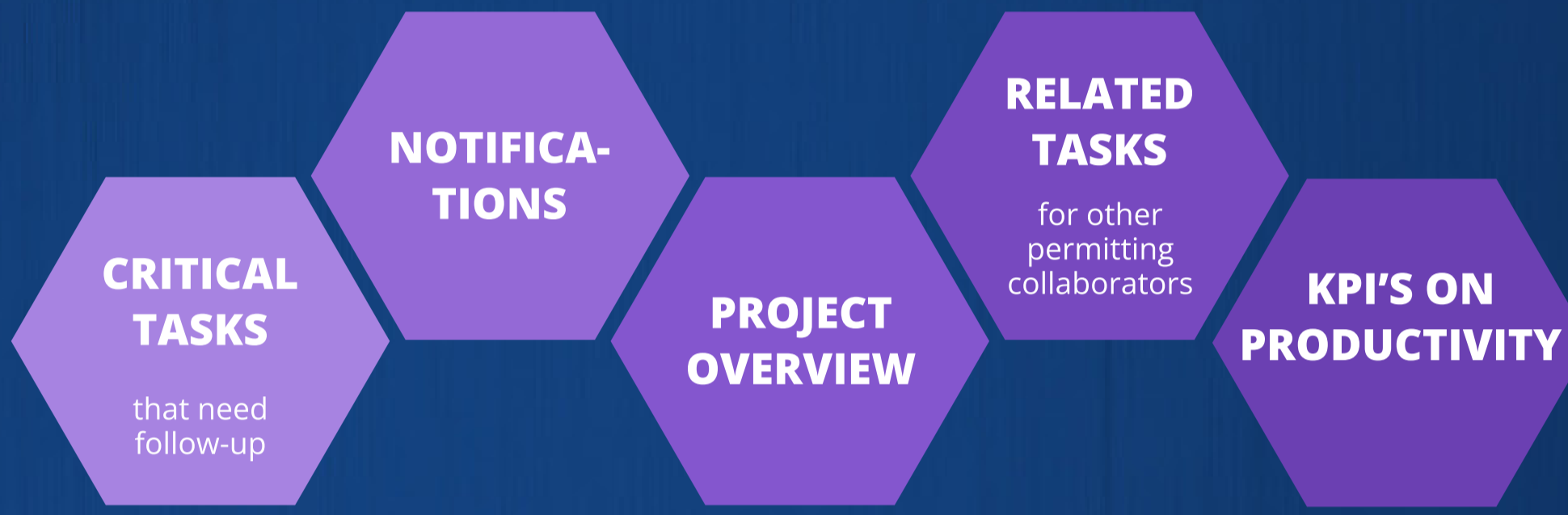
INTRODUCING OUR DIGITAL PERMITTING SOLUTION*



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

A permit application can be a couple of hundreds pages long. Edits or updates are done via phone or email and then transferred onto the desktop. A lot of time is wasted just to keep everything organized.

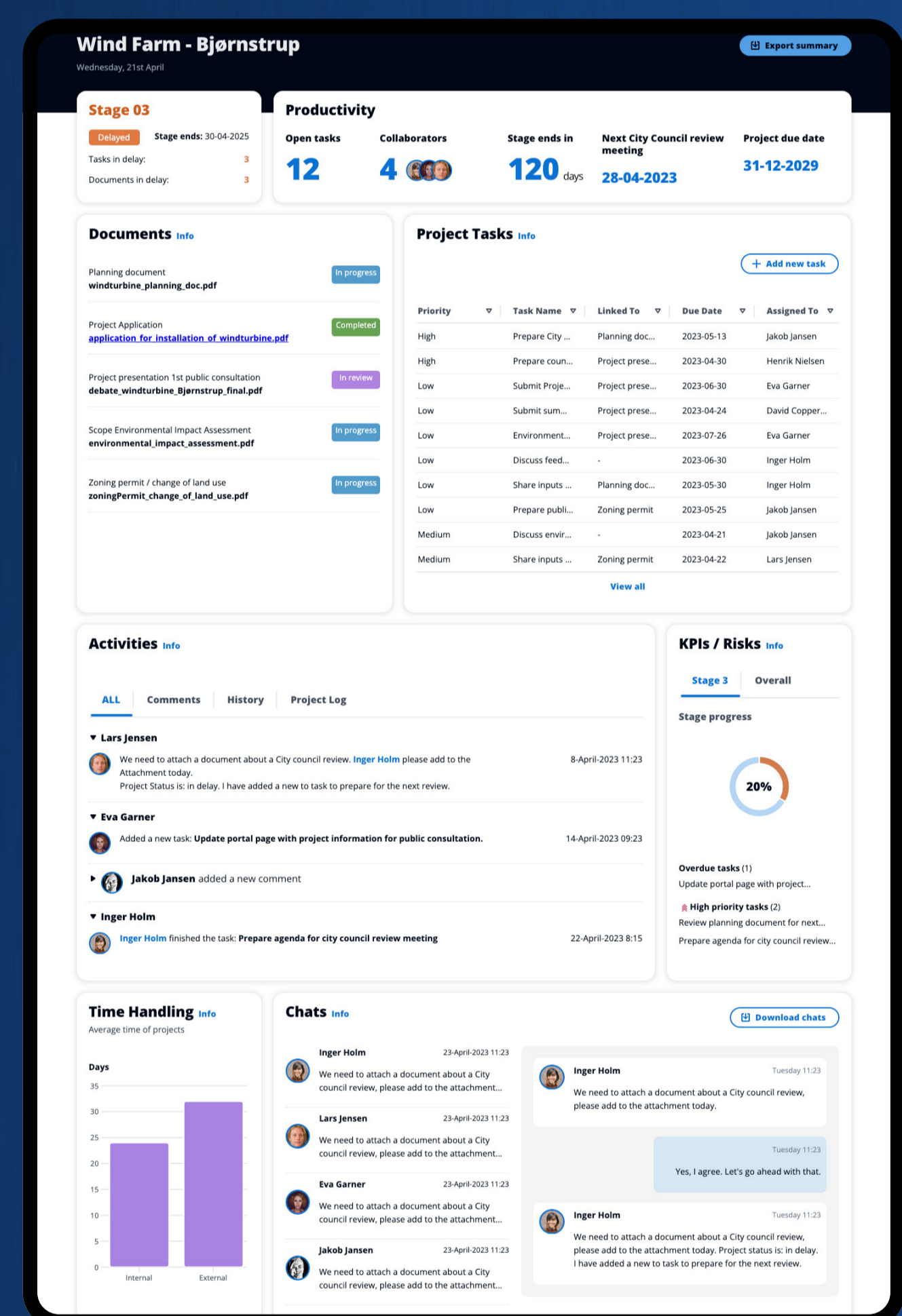
Permitting agents are also faced with different files in different formats, via different channels, often with missing information. Exactly what type of information is needed for the projects is often hard to know.



We are simplifying Information Management.

Henrik can see everything he needs to know on his home screen dashboard. We are implementing submission templates, keyword search, automated document checks, and notifications all within one central repository so that there is a single source of truth.

COLLABORATION



Permitting agents often have multiple permit applications to process on top of other responsibilities of their job at the local municipalities. In some Member States there are more than 80 different public bodies involved in permitting. Information about permit requirements is not easy to locate and is often incomplete, causing significant delays in processing.

In some Member States, the project developers have a similar challenge, needing to correspond with several different public agencies for gathering all the permits for a single project.

We are simplifying Collaboration.

Each permit application has a dedicated dashboard that gives Henrik a quick overview of that particular permit application.

It enables Henrik to assign responsibilities and deadlines, as well as send reminders and notifications to his colleagues in the different public agencies. He can see the status of each task and who it belongs to, which helps to keep track of everyone's activities and holds everyone accountable to a shared goal.

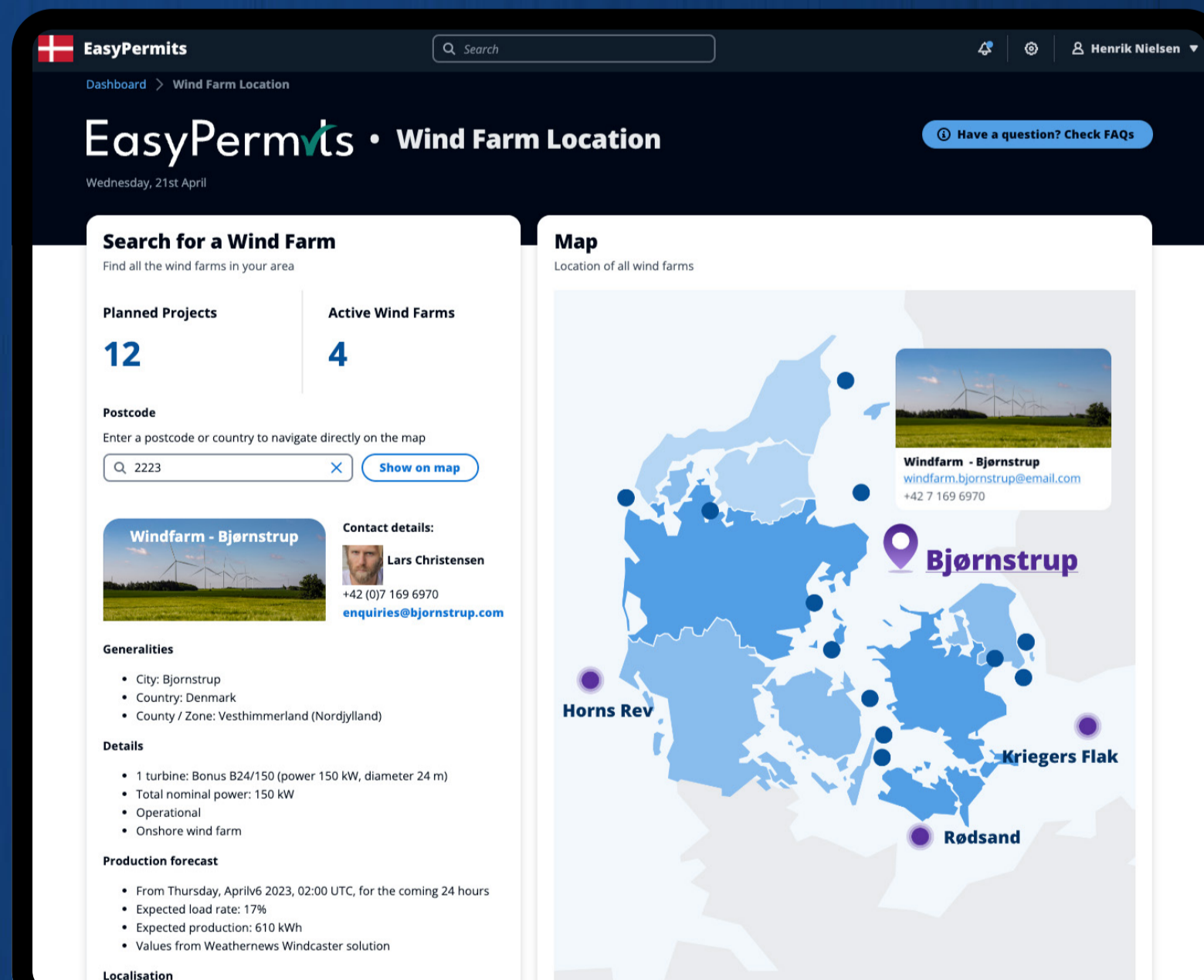
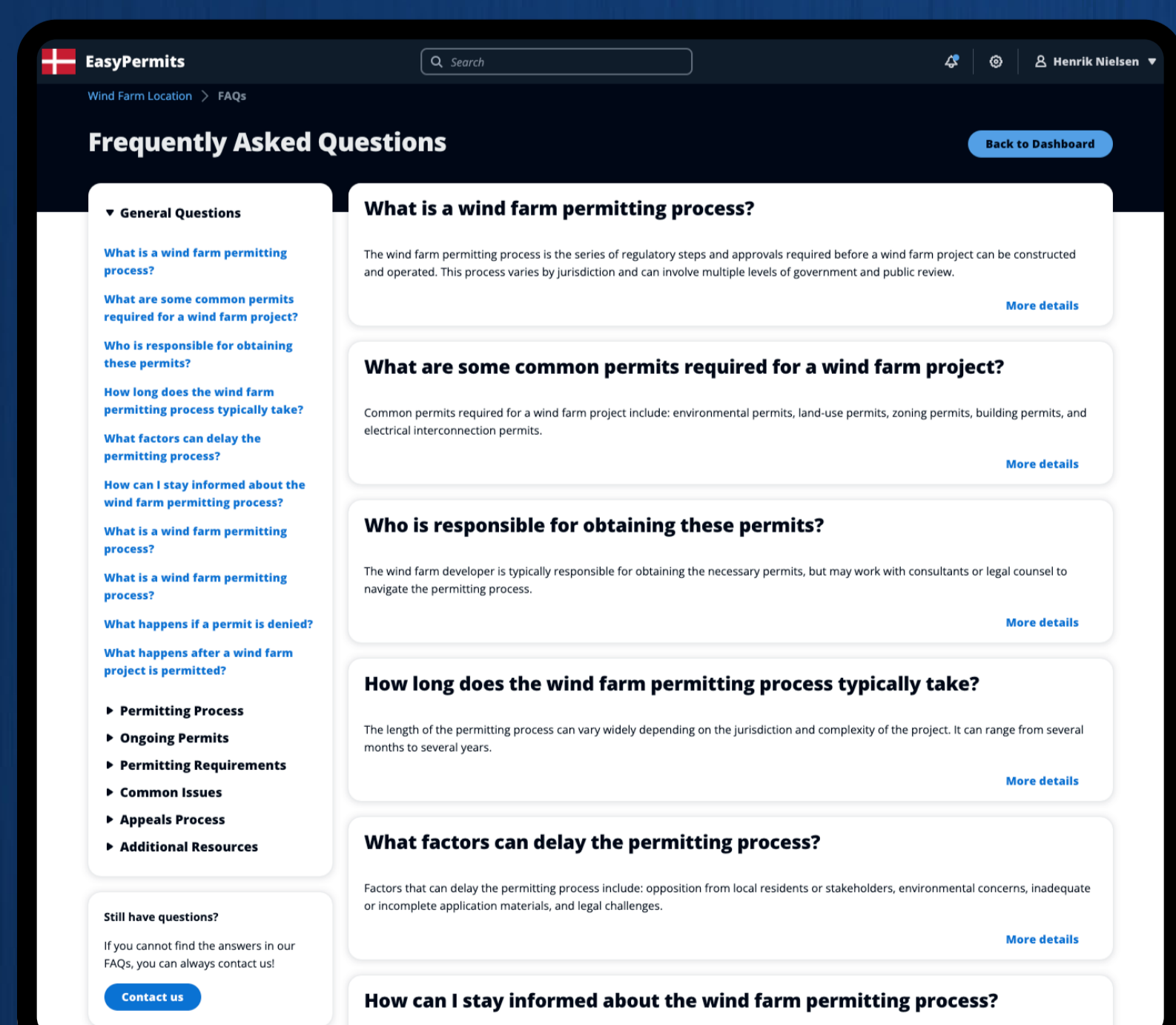
Collaborators for a permit application can also interact with each other and answer questions / review comments on a particular document in real time while being stored in one single repository.

PROCESS TRANSPARENCY

Transparency for a permitting agent means having a single overview of the most urgent and important items needing attention by themselves or key collaborators, as well as key bottlenecks along the critical path.

Transparency towards external stakeholders is also important.

Currently it is difficult for the permitting agent to provide a status update for the projects in pipeline both to the project developers, as well as the general public. Sharing information of the planned projects and the impact they might have on the local community is an important role of the permitting agent.



We are simplifying Process Transparency.

The community members can easily see the relevant details of the planned projects. There is also an FAQ answering the generic questions giving, Henrik more time to focus on the permit applications.

Proactively making the status transparent fosters a collaborative spirit, and enhances engagement of all relevant stakeholders such as local communities, environmental groups, local municipal councils throughout the whole process.

Social acceptance is key to accelerating the pace of the clean energy transition; there needs to be transparency of the pros and cons to those most impacted.

We have set out on a path for solving the key challenges for the permitting agents and other involved stakeholders.

This is just the start. Our collective AWS and Accenture process of delivering digital solutions and innovation is all about "THINKING BIG, STARTING SMALL AND SCALING FAST".

Our teams came together in January 2023 and, within 12 weeks, we had a working prototype. This was made possible by the Accenture and AWS Business Growth Launchpad – A pool of experts specialised in turning ideas to reality by rapidly prototyping using agile principles.

At AWS and Accenture, we believe in the power of collaboration to tackle large industry challenges - and we are excited to continue to leverage the strengths of our different organizations together with WindEurope and the World Economic Forum to drive breakthrough innovations to accelerate the energy transition.

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*The Digital Permitting Solution is tentatively called EasyPermits