The climate is changing, the sea level is rising and the discharge of rains in the Netherlands is increasing. The Delta Plan of IJsselmonde states that the Netherlands is not fully capable of dealing with climate change, and something has to be done to regulate the water flowing through the Netherlands. To ensure that the fresh water coming from the higher areas in Europe, doesn’t flow away, the Delta Committee made several recommendations. One of the recommendations is to increase the water level of the IJsselmeer with 1.5 meters. Nowadays, IJsselmeer can discharge its fresh water freely into the Wadden Sea and a fresh water basin is created for drinking- and agricultural needs in dry periods.

The IJsselmeer also attracts me because it’s shaped as an oval which after 175 years in 1932 time was planned for closure of the sluices and from that moment, the coastline became a fresh water lake. The closure was formed by the Afsluitdijk, which is now being a connection between North-Holland and Friesland, and it is expanding the salt Wadden Sea from the fresh IJsselmeer. Especially this Afsluitdijkstrippel me, the border between fresh and salt water. The linear functional line and its unique idiom.解决了 this separation of two different ecological systems. It also has the potential for gaining energy out of water.

New 75 years after establishing the Afsluitdijk, the Afsluitdijk needs a revision, to deliver damage. It needs new sluices to discharge the fresh water into the Wadden Sea and it has to be made climate proof. In May 2008, the IJsselmonde and the province of Friesland set up a consultation for sustainable to create a vision over the Afsluitdijk or “Ijsselmeervoorzichtigheid”. A consortium joined the competition and at the moment, this consortium is still working on their vision on the Afsluitdijk.

This unique location, the current problems and the high potential in sustainable energy gained from natural sources, made me conclude to design a multifunctional energy centre located on the Afsluitdijk. The multifunctional energy centre is based on innovative and experimental technologies in the fields of engineering and energy. The energy centre are the Afsluitdijk is the perfect showcase to show the world the immense possibilities on sustainable technology and dealing with climate change.

PIETER RAAT_A_CLIMATE ADAPTATION LAB