



# Renewable energy policy database and support – RES-LEGAL EUROPE

## National profile: Austria

Client: DG Energy

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Berlin, 31 December 2015





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## ***Austria summary text***

In Austria, electricity from renewable sources is supported mainly through a feed-in tariff. Furthermore, the construction of PV installations on buildings and small or medium-sized hydro-electric power stations is supported through subsidies. Electricity from renewable sources is granted access to the grid according to the general legislation on energy and according to non-discriminatory principles.

Heating and cooling from renewable energy sources is supported through different incentive schemes, both on the state level and on the level of the individual federal states (“Länder”). The main support scheme for renewable energy sources used in transport is a quota system.

There are four specialisation programmes for RES-installers, numerous quality standards for RES installations, both an act and an agreement determining the exemplary role of public authorities, a research and technology programme and a building obligation for the use of renewable heating.



## RES-E support schemes

### Summary of support schemes

<p><b>Overview</b></p>	<p>In Austria, electricity from renewable sources is supported mainly through a feed-in tariff (FiT) which is differentiated depending on the technology used. The overall support payments for the FiT are redefined annually through a decreasing promotional volume which amounts up to EUR 47 million for new installations in 2015 and is allocated by sector. Furthermore, the construction of small (&lt;10 MW) and medium-sized (&lt;15 MW) hydro-electric power stations is supported by investment grants and small PV installations (&lt;5 kW) through subsidies. Basically, the feed-in tariff and subsidies are mutually exclusive with some exceptions.</p>
<p><b>Summary of support system</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Feed-in tariff.</b> In Austria, electricity from renewable sources is supported mainly through a feed-in tariff, which is set out in the Ökostromgesetz (ÖSG) 2012 and the regulations related thereto. The operators of renewable energy plants are entitled against the government purchasing agency, the so-called Ökostromabwicklungsstelle (hereinafter called "Clearing and Settlement Agency"), to the conclusion of a contract on the purchase of the electricity they produce ("obligation to enter into a contract") unless the promotional volume for the FiT is exhausted. The promotional volume for 2015 amounts up to EUR 47 million and is allocated by sector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wind power: EUR 11,5 million</li> <li>• Biomass and Biogas: EUR 10 million</li> <li>• Photovoltaic: EUR 8 million</li> <li>• Small-scale hydropower: EUR 1,5 million</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Subsidy I.</b> The construction of small and medium-sized hydro-electric power stations is subsidised by investment grants. The legal basis of these grants is the ÖSG 2012 in conjunction with the applicable annual subsidy directive.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Subsidy II.</b> In addition to the feed-in tariff, an investment subsidy is granted for off-grid installations that generate electricity from renewable energies.</li> <li>• <b>Subsidy III.</b> Furthermore, subsidies are granted for small PV installations with a maximum capacity of 5 kW.</li> </ul>
<b>Technologies</b>	All renewable electricity generation technologies are eligible for the Austrian feed-in tariff. In contrast to the tariff, investment grants are available for small and medium-sized hydro-electric power stations and small PV installations only.
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ÖSG 2012 (Ökostromgesetz; Bundesgesetz, mit dem Neuregelungen auf dem Gebiet der Elektrizitätserzeugung aus Erneuerbaren Energieträgern und auf dem Gebiet der Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung erlassen werden - Federal Act on the Support of Electricity Produced from Renewable Energy Sources and on Combined Heat and Power)</li> <li>• ÖSET-VO 2012 (Ökostrom-Einspeisetarifverordnung) - Verordnung des Bundesministers für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend, mit der die Einspeisetarife für die Abnahme elektrischer Energie aus Ökostromanlagen auf Grund von Verträgen festgesetzt werden, zu deren Abschluss die Ökostromabwicklungsstelle ab 1. Juli 2012 bis Ende des Jahres 2015 verpflichtet ist – Feed-in tariff regulation 2012 - Regulation of the Federal Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth, determining the feed-in tariffs for the purchase of electricity from renewable energy plants on the basis of contracts to whose conclusion the Clearing and Settlement Agency is obligated from 1 July 2012 until the end of 2015.</li> <li>• Subsidy Directive 2012 – Förderrichtlinien 2012 für die Gewährung von Investitionszuschüssen gemäß §24 bis §27 Ökostromgesetz für die Errichtung von KWK-Anlagen auf der Basis von Ablauge, Kleinwasserkraftanlagen und mittleren Wasserkraftwerken sowie § 7 KWK-Gesetz zur Errichtung von KWK-Anlagen - Subsidy Directive 2012 on the granting of investment subsidies, as set out in § 24-§ 27 of the ÖSG 2012, for the construction of CHP-installations on the basis of waste lye, small and medium-sized hydro-power plants and §7 of the CHP-Act on the construction of CHP plants.</li> <li>• 359. Verordnung des Bundesministers für Wissenschaft, Forschung und Wirtschaft, mit der die Ökostromförderbeitragsverordnung 2015 und die Ökostrompauschale Verordnung 2015-2017 erlassen werden - 359. Regulation of the Ministry for Science, Research and Economy which enacts the compensatory payment regulation 2015 and the regulation on the fixed charge on electricity from renewable energy sources 2015-2017</li> <li>• Leitfaden für Photovoltaikanlagen 2015 - Subsidy guidelines for PV 2015</li> </ul>



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|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offgrid subsidy guidelines 2015 (Stromerzeugung in Insellage auf Basis erneuerbarer Energieträger – Informationsblatt 2015)</li><li>• UFG (Umweltförderungsgesetz - Environmental Aid Act)</li><li>• Bundesgesetz, mit dem Bestimmungen auf dem Gebiet der Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung neu erlassen werden (KWK-Gesetz) – Federal Act introducing new conditions for combined heat and power (CHP-Act)</li></ul> |
|--|---|



**Basic information on legal sources**

<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	Bundesgesetz, mit dem Neuregelungen auf dem Gebiet der Elektrizitätserzeugung aus Erneuerbaren Energieträgern und auf dem Gebiet der Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung erlassen werden (Ökostromgesetz – ÖSG)	Verordnung des Bundesministers für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend, mit der die Einspeisetarife für die Abnahme elektrischer Energie aus Ökostromanlagen auf Grund von Verträgen festgesetzt werden, zu deren Abschluss die Ökostromabwicklungsstelle ab 1. Juli 2012 bis Ende des Jahres 2015 verpflichtet ist	Förderrichtlinien 2012 für die Gewährung von Investitionszuschüssen gemäß §24 bis §27 Ökostromgesetz für die Errichtung von KWK-Anlagen auf der Basis von Ablauge, Kleinwasserkraftanlagen und mittleren Wasserkraftwerken sowie § 7 KWK-Gesetz zur Errichtung von KWK-Anlagen
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Federal Act on the Support of Electricity Produced from Renewable Energy Sources and on Combined Heat and Power (ÖSG 2012)	Regulation of the Federal Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth, determining the feed-in tariffs for the purchase of electricity from renewable energy plants on the basis of contracts to whose conclusion the Clearing and Settlement Agency is obligated from 1 July 2012 until the end of 2015.	Subsidy Directive 2012 on the granting of investment subsidies, as set out in § 24-§ 27 of the ÖSG 2012, for the construction of CHP-installations on the basis of waste lye, small and medium-sized hydro-power plants and §7 of the CHP-Act on the construction of CHP plants.





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<b>Abbreviated form</b>	ÖSG 2012	Ö-SET VO 2012	Subsidy Directive 2012
<b>Entry into force</b>	24.08.2002	18.09.2012	01.07.2012
<b>Last amended on</b>	01.07.2012	12.11.2014	
<b>Future amendments</b>		24.12.2015	01.01.2016
<b>Purpose</b>	The act regulates the support system for electricity from renewable sources and the use of certificates of origin.	This regulation determines the feed-in tariffs for electricity generated in renewable energy plants.	Giving a more detailed definition of the conditions for the granting of investment subsidies in accordance with the ÖSG 2012.
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	The act aims to support renewable energy and combined heat and power only.	This regulation applies to renewable energy only.	This directive aims to support combined heat and power and small and medium-sized hydro-power plants only.
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GelteFas-sung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20007386">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GelteFas-sung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20007386</a>	<a href="http://www.oem-ag.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente/gesetze/OESET-VO_2012__konosolidierte_Fassu">http://www.oem-ag.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente/gesetze/OESET-VO_2012__konosolidierte_Fassu</a>	<a href="http://www.oem-ag.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente/investitionsfoerderung/2012-01-">http://www.oem-ag.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente/investitionsfoerderung/2012-01-</a>



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		ng_.pdf	07_foederungsrichtlinien2012.pdf
Link to full text of legal source (English)			



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<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	359. Verordnung des Bundesministers für Wissenschaft, Forschung und Wirtschaft, mit der die Ökostromförderungsverordnung 2015 und die Ökostrompauschale Verordnung 2015-2017 erlassen werden	Förderleitfaden Photovoltaik-Anlagen 2015	Infoblatt zur Antragstellung für die Stromerzeugung in Insellage auf Basis erneuerbarer Energieträger	Umweltförderungsgesetz (BGBl. Nr. 185/1993)
<b>Full name</b>		Leitfaden Photovoltaik-Anlagen 2016. Eine Förderaktion des Klima- und Energiefonds der österreichischen Bundesregierung		
<b>Name (English)</b>	359. Regulation of the Ministry for Science, Research and Economy which enacts the compensatory payment regulation 2015 and the regulation on the fixed charge on electricity from renewable energy sources 2015-2017	Subsidy guidelines for photovoltaic installations – support campaign of the Austrian climate and energy funds	Guidelines for the offgrid investment subsidy scheme	Environmental Aid Act (BGBl. No. 185/1993)



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<b>Abbreviated form</b>	Regulation on fixed and compensatory charges 2015	PV subsidy guidelines 2015	Offgrid subsidy guidelines	UFG
<b>Entry into force</b>	01.01.2015	24.02.2015	01.07.2015	16.03.1993
<b>Last amended on</b>				23.04.2015
<b>Future amendments</b>		23.02.2016		
<b>Purpose</b>	This regulation determines the annual fixed charge for electricity from renewable energy sources for end users who are connected to the public grid. The fixed charge is differentiated by 7 voltage levels which are defined for 2015-2017.	These guidelines regulate the subsidy grants for electricity generated by small PV installations (<5 kWpeak).	Giving a more detailed definition of the conditions for the granting of investment subsidies for small offgrid installations.	The Environmental Aid Act regulates the support of measures to protect the environment.
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This regulation applies to renewable energy only.	These guidelines are for renewable energies only.	These guidelines are for renewable energies only.	This act also regulates the support of renewable energy
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="http://www.oem-ag.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente/gesetze/Oekos">http://www.oem-ag.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente/gesetze/Oekos</a>	<a href="https://www.klimafonds.gv.at/assets/Uploads/Downloads-">https://www.klimafonds.gv.at/assets/Uploads/Downloads-</a>	<a href="https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/fileadmin/user_upload/media/umweltfoerderung">https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/fileadmin/user_upload/media/umweltfoerderung</a>	<a href="http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFasItendeFassung/Bundesnormen/10010">http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFasItendeFassung/Bundesnormen/10010</a>



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	tromfoerderbei- tragsVO_2015_und_Oekostr ompauschaleVO.pdf	Frder- ungen/Photovoltaik_Geb _Kraftwerk/PV_Frderung -und-Solaranlagen/LF- Photovoltaik-2015.pdf	g/Dokumente_Betriebe/Stro merzeugung_in_Insellage_a uf_Basis_erneuerbarer_Ener gietrae- ger/ufi_standardfall_infobla tt_stromprod.pdf	<a href="#"><u>755/UFG%2c%20Fassung%20vom%2003.04.2012.pdf</u></a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>				

<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	Bundesgesetz, mit dem Bestim- mungen auf dem Gebiet der Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung neu er- lassen werden (KWK-Gesetz)
<b>Full name</b>	
<b>Name (English)</b>	Federal Act introducing new conditions for combined heat and power
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	CHP-Act
<b>Entry into force</b>	13.03.2009



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<b>Last amended on</b>	22.01.2015
<b>Future amendments</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	The act aims to foster the dissemination of highly efficient CHP-installations through investment subsidies.
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This regulation sets efficiency criteria which also relate to CHP-installations which are powered with RES. If the respective conditions set out by this act are met, the operator might receive a technology bonus.
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Gelten.deFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20005916">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Gelten.deFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20005916</a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>	



### Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
<b>Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWfW)/Former Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth</b>	<a href="http://www.en.bmwfw.gv.at/Energy/Energystategyandpolicy/Seiten/default.aspx">http://www.en.bmwfw.gv.at/Energy/Energystategyandpolicy/Seiten/default.aspx</a>		+43 171 10 00	service@bmwfw.gv.at
<b>Austrian Energy Agency</b>	<a href="http://en.energyagency.at/">http://en.energyagency.at/</a>		+43 158 615 240	office@energyagency.at
<b>E-Control Ltd. – Deregulation agency</b>	<a href="http://www.e-control.at/home_de">http://www.e-control.at/home_de</a>		+43 124 72 40	office@e-control.at
<b>Dachverband Energie-Klima – Umbrella Organization Energy-Climate Protection</b>	<a href="http://www.energieklima.at/en/">http://www.energieklima.at/en/</a>		+43 590 900 34 65	energieklima@fmfi.at
<b>Clearing and Settlement Agency for Green Electricity – OeMAG Abwicklungsstelle für Ökostrom</b>	<a href="http://www.oem-ag.at/">http://www.oem-ag.at/</a>		+43 5 787 66-10	kundenservice@oem-ag.at



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**Support schemes**

**Subsidy I (Investment subsidy for Hydro)**

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ÖSG 2012</li> <li>• Subsidy Directive 2012</li> <li>• Regulation on fixed and compensatory charges 2015</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary</b>	<p>The construction or revitalisation of small and medium-sized hydro-power plants can be supported through investment grants. Revitalisation projects are eligible if the investment leads to an increase of the standard capacity by at least 15 % (§ 26 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</p> <p>The funds available for small hydro-power plants are limited to € 16 million. (§ 1 par. 4 Subsidy Directive, 26 par. 2 ÖSG 2012).</p> <p>The funds available for medium-sized hydro-power plants are limited to € 50 million and should be used up by the end of 2015 for a capacity of 350 MW (§ 1 par. 1 Subsidy Directive, 26 par. 2 ÖSG 2012).</p>	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	In Austria, only small and medium-sized hydro-power plants are eligible for investment grants (§ 26 par. 3 ÖSG 2012). Other technologies are not eligible.
	<b>Wind energy</b>	
	<b>Solar energy</b>	
	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	



	<b>Biogas</b>	
	<b>Hydro-power</b>	<p>Eligible if the plant meets the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• „small hydro-power plant“: maximum capacity shall not exceed 10 MW (§ 5 par. 1 subpar. 17 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• „medium-sized hydro-power plant“: maximum capacity between 10 MW and 20 MW (§ 5 par. 1 subpar. 19 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• The plant shall have been recognized as renewable energy plant (§ 7 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• If the plant has not been put into operation within 3 years after the approval of the investment grant by the Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, the application shall be deemed to be withdrawn and the approval to be expired (§ 26 par. 5 in conjunction with § 27 par. 5 ÖSG 2012).</li> </ul>
	<b>Biomass</b>	
<b>Amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For plants with a maximum capacity of 500 kW, the amount of the investment subsidy shall not exceed 30% of the investment volume immediately needed for the construction or revitalisation of the plant (excluding land costs), with a maximum of € 1,500 per kW.</li> <li>• For plants with a maximum capacity of 2 MW, the amount of the investment subsidy shall not exceed 20% of the investment volume, with a maximum of € 1,000 per kW.</li> <li>• For plants with a maximum capacity of 10 MW, the amount of the investment subsidy shall not exceed 10% of the investment volume, with a maximum of € 400 per kW.</li> <li>• For plants with a maximum capacity from 500kW to 2 MW and from 2 MW and 10 MW, the amount of the investment volume is calculated via linear interpolation (§ 26 par. 3 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• For plants with a maximum capacity from 10 MW to 20 MW, the amount of the investment subsidy shall not exceed 10% of the investment volume, with a maximum of € 400 per kW (§ 27 par. 3 ÖSG 2012)</li> </ul>	



<p><b>Addressees</b></p>	<p><b>Entitled party.</b> The party entitled to the subsidies are natural or legal persons who construct or revitalise small and medium-sized power plants (§6 in conjunction with §3 par. 1 Subsidy Directive 2012).</p> <p><b>Obligated party.</b> The obligated party is the settlement agency chosen by the Federal Minister of Science, Research and Economy, former Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth (§ 8 par. 1 in conjunction with §2 par. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012)</p>				
<p><b>Procedure</b></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="707 528 1279 568">Process flow</th><th data-bbox="1279 528 2065 1348"></th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="707 568 1279 1348"></td><td data-bbox="1279 528 2065 1348"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assessment.</b> The investment volume and the amount of subsidy needed are to be assessed by an independent expert determined by the Governor (§ 8 par. 2 subpar. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012 in conjunction with § 27 par. 4 ÖSG 2012). Simplified procedures are available for small-scale hydro installations between 500 - 2000 kW (§ 8 par. 5 Subsidy Directive 2012 in conjunction with §26 par. 6 subpar. 4 ÖSG 2012)</li> <li>• <b>Application.</b> Applications shall be submitted in writing to the Clearing and Settlement Agency (CSA) for Investment Subsidies (OeMAG) prior to construction. The applications will be processed in order of receipt (§ 9 par. 1 Subsidy Directive 2012).The application for investment grants has to contain inter alia a technical project description, presentation of the expected electricity generation amount and the recognition document as a renewable energy installation/plant (§ 8 par. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012)</li> <li>• <b>Selection.</b> Evidence of the investment costs for the plant and its eligibility for subsidies shall be provided by the report of an independent expert who shall be appointed by the Provincial Governor (§ 8 par. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012). Moreover, compliance with the conditions laid down in the ÖSG 2012 and the Subsidy Directive 2012 is assessed. The application can only be accepted and reviewed by the CSA, if the documents are complete. Especially small hydro installations need - if necessary – assessments concerning water and na-</li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Process flow			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assessment.</b> The investment volume and the amount of subsidy needed are to be assessed by an independent expert determined by the Governor (§ 8 par. 2 subpar. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012 in conjunction with § 27 par. 4 ÖSG 2012). Simplified procedures are available for small-scale hydro installations between 500 - 2000 kW (§ 8 par. 5 Subsidy Directive 2012 in conjunction with §26 par. 6 subpar. 4 ÖSG 2012)</li> <li>• <b>Application.</b> Applications shall be submitted in writing to the Clearing and Settlement Agency (CSA) for Investment Subsidies (OeMAG) prior to construction. The applications will be processed in order of receipt (§ 9 par. 1 Subsidy Directive 2012).The application for investment grants has to contain inter alia a technical project description, presentation of the expected electricity generation amount and the recognition document as a renewable energy installation/plant (§ 8 par. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012)</li> <li>• <b>Selection.</b> Evidence of the investment costs for the plant and its eligibility for subsidies shall be provided by the report of an independent expert who shall be appointed by the Provincial Governor (§ 8 par. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012). Moreover, compliance with the conditions laid down in the ÖSG 2012 and the Subsidy Directive 2012 is assessed. The application can only be accepted and reviewed by the CSA, if the documents are complete. Especially small hydro installations need - if necessary – assessments concerning water and na-</li> </ul>
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		<p>ture conservation measures (§ 9 par. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012). The CSA is obliged to inform the applicant if documents are missing (§ 9 par. 2 Subsidy Directive 2012). The Minister on Economy, Family and Youth might include recommendations from the energy advisory board when choosing the eligible project (§5 par 5 Subsidy Directive 2015)/§ 28 ÖSG 2012)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Subsidy contract.</b> If all the conditions are met, the contract is deemed concluded through a written assurance. Individual assessment might require a permission from the European Commission first (§13 par. 1 Subsidy Decree 2012). The investment grant shall be paid as soon as the plant has been commissioned at its full capacity and the final report has been submitted and examined (§ 12 par 2. Subsidy Directive 2012).</li> </ul>
	Competent authority	Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWfW)
Flexibility mechanism		
Distribution of costs	State	
	Consumers	The costs of the subsidy scheme are borne by the consumers (§§ 45 and 48 ÖSG 2012).
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	



	<p><b>Distribution mechanism</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Consumer – grid operator.</b> In addition to the grid use fees, the grid operators charge different support fees, which depend on the voltage level and are to be paid by the users of all voltage levels (large enterprises, private households), (§§ 45 par. 1, 48 par. 1 ÖSG 2012). The fixed rate ('Ökostrompauschale') is redefined by the Minister for Science, Research and Economy every three years through a regulation on fixed charges for electricity from renewable energy sources 2015-2017. 38% of the fixed support fee shall be granted to the support of small and medium-sized hydro installations and CHP-installations (§ 45 par. 1-4 and 4 subpar. 1 ÖSG 2012). Furthermore, the Minister for Science, Research and Economy issues a decree for an additional compensatory fee annually (§ 48 par. 1-2 ÖSG 2012). The support fee shall be shown separately on the electricity bills.</li> <li>• <b>Grid operator – Clearing and Settlement Agency.</b> The grid operator shall transfer the income from the support fee to the Clearing and Settlement Agency every three months (§ 47 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</li> </ul>
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Subsidy II (Investment subsidy for PV on buildings)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ÖSET-VO 2012</li> <li>• ÖSG 2012</li> <li>• Regulation on fixed and compensatory charges 2015</li> </ul>	
Summary		
Eligible technologies	General information	In addition to the feed-in tariff, an investment subsidy of 30 % of the investment costs up to 200 € per kW is granted for PV installations on buildings. The feed-in tariff amounts up to 11,5 €/kWh if the contract is concluded in 2015 (§ 13a par. 2a ÖSET-VO 2012).
	Wind energy	
	Solar energy	<p>Eligible under the following condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The installation's capacity shall be between 5 kWp and 200 kWp (§ 12 par. 2 no. 3 ÖSG 2012 in conjunction with §§ 13 a par. 2 a. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012).</li> </ul>
	Geothermal energy	
	Biogas	
	Hydro-power	
	Biomass	



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<b>Amount</b>	For PV installations on buildings, the investment subsidy amounts to 30 % of the investment costs but no more than 200 € per kW. The feed-in tariff amounts up to 11,5 €/kWh if the contract is concluded in 2015 (§ 13 a par. 2 a ÖSET-VO 2015).	
<b>Addressees</b>	<b>Entitled party.</b> The persons entitled to the tariff are the operators of photovoltaic installations on buildings. In order to be entitled to the investment subsidy, the installation must be licensed as a “green electricity plant” by the governor (§ 7 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	
	<b>Competent authority</b>	Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWfW)
<b>Flexibility mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	The costs of the subsidy scheme are borne by the consumers (§§ 47 and 48 ÖSG 2012).
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Consumer – grid operator.</b> The grid operators charge all users (large-scale consumers, private households) a fixed rate (Ökostrompauschale), which differs according to the level of consumption, on top of the grid use fee (§ 45 par. 1 ÖSG 2012). Furthermore, the Minister for Science, Research and</li> </ul>



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		<p>Economy issues a decree for an additional compensatory fee annually (§ 48 par. 1-2 ÖSG 2012). The support fee shall be shown separately on the electricity bills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Grid operator – Clearing and Settlement Agency.</b> The grid operator shall transfer the income from the support fee to the Clearing and Settlement Agency every three months (§ 47 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</li> </ul> <p>The fixed support fee ('Ökostrompauschale') is redefined by the Minister for Science, Research and Economy every three years (§ 45 par. 2 ÖSG 2012). The regulation on fixed charges for electricity from renewable energy sources sets out the fixed fee for 2015-2017 as follows: For users connected to voltage levels 1 to 3: € 104, 444</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 4: € 104,444</li> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 5: € 15,517</li> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 6: € 955</li> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 7: € 33</li> </ul>
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**Subsidy II (Investment subsidy for offgrid installations)**

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offgrid subsidy guidelines</li> <li>• UFG</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary</b>	Companies, other entrepreneurial organisations, confessional facilities and associations can profit from investment subsidies granted for the installation of offgrid power plants for the purpose of self-supply. Furthermore, the subsidies may be granted to electrical energy storage devices.	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	Investment subsidy is granted for the installation of offgrid power plants (Offgrid subsidy guidelines).
	<b>Wind energy</b>	Eligible.
	<b>Solar energy</b>	Eligible.
	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	
	<b>Biogas</b>	Eligible for CHP.
	<b>Hydro-power</b>	Eligible for small hydro-power plants.
	<b>Biomass</b>	
<b>Amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard subsidy: 30 % of the costs of installation eligible for funding with a cap of € 1,500,000</li> <li>• Additional subsidy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 5 % for installations in areas higher than 1200 meters or in ecologically sensitive areas.</li> <li>○ 5 % in case the project is selected for EU co-funding by the European Regional Development</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



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	Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 5 % or a maximum of € 10,000 for EMAS and eco-label (Offgrid subsidy guidelines)</li> </ul>	
<b>Addressees</b>	Entitled party: Subsidies can only be claimed by companies or other entrepreneurial organisations, confessional facilities and associations (Offgrid subsidy guidelines).	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	The following documents have to be handed in at the competent authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical description of the applied measure</li> <li>• Forecast of earnings and consumption</li> <li>• Estimate of costs</li> <li>• For wind and hydro-power plants: planning and building permission</li> <li>• In case of an investment volume of more than € 500,000: report of the competent authority (Offgrid subsidy guidelines).</li> </ul>
	<b>Competent authority</b>	Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH
<b>Flexibility mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	The costs are borne to the state according to the available financial resources (§ 6 (1a) UFG)
	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	Investment grants are only available if the investment costs of the plant operator exceed € 10,000



	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	The project may be selected for EU co-funding by the European Regional Development funds with 35% of the investment costs.
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	

**Subsidy III (Investment subsidy for small PV)**

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary</b>	<p>PV installations under 5kWp in private households and commercial buildings are eligible to investment subsidies from the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund. The subsidies support max. 5 kWp of a PV system, whereas double funding is not possible. The promotion budget is only granted for new projects (annually announced in spring) and can be claimed by private individuals, companies, associations and confessional facilities. Since 2015, private individuals can build a PV system conjointly by accessing the funds for max. 5 kWp per capita and 30 kWp in total. Furthermore, it is also possible to apply for the funding more than once if the applicant aims to build another unit at a different site. (PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015)</p>	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	Subsidies are granted for PV installations with a maximum capacity of 5kWp (p. 3 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015).
	<b>Wind energy</b>	
	<b>Solar energy</b>	Subsidies are granted for PV installations with a maximum capacity of 5kWp (p. 3 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015). Alternatively, also joint



		PV installations ('Gemeinschaftsanlagen') are eligible for subsidies, whereas the funds can be accessed for max. 5 kWp per capita and 30 kWp in total (p. 3 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015).
	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	
	<b>Biogas</b>	
	<b>Hydro-power</b>	
	<b>Biomass</b>	
<b>Amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• €275 per kWp for roof-top or ground-mounted installations with a maximum capacity of 5 kWp.</li> <li>• €375 per kWp for building integrated installations with a maximum capacity of 5 kWp (p. 3 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015).</li> <li>• The overall budget amounts up to € 17 million for 2015 (p.5 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015)</li> </ul>	
<b>Addressees</b>	Entitled party: Subsidies can be claimed by natural or legal persons; e.g. private individuals, farmers, companies, confessional facilities and associations (p.3 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015).	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	In the beginning of the process, the applicant has to make a request for a registration number. After receiving the number, a personal online link to the application form is activated. The construction of the installation has to be accomplished three month after the registration or before 14 December 2015 at the latest. Hereafter, the support form has to be submitted to "Kommunalkredit Public Consulting". After the registration and construction, the entitled party can apply for subsidies before 07.03.2016 at the latest. (p.4 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2016).



	<b>Competent authority</b>	Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH
<b>Flexibility mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	A total budget of € 17 million from the Climate and Energy Fund (KLI.EN) is available (p. 5 PV Subsidy Guidelines 2015).
	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	

**Feed-in tariff (ÖSG 2012)**

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ÖSG 2012</li> <li>• ÖSET-VO 2012</li> <li>• Regulation on fixed and compensatory charges 2015</li> <li>• CHP-Act</li> </ul>
<b>Summary</b>	Electricity from renewable sources is supported mainly through a feed-in tariff. The operators of renewable energy plants are entitled to the conclusion of a contract with a government purchasing agency, the Clearing and Settlement Agency, on



	<p>the purchase of and payment for electricity as long as funds are available (§ 14 par. 3 ÖSG 2012).</p> <p>The feed-in tariffs for the different renewable technologies are stipulated annually through a resolution of the Minister of Science, Research and Economy (§ 19 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</p>	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	<p>In principle, the feed-in tariff scheme applies to all renewable energy technologies. However, the plant must be registered as a “green electricity plant” (Ökostromanlage) according to § 7 ÖSG 2012.</p> <p>Plants generating electricity from wind, solid and liquid biomass, biogas or geothermal energy are eligible regardless of their capacities. PV installations shall exceed 5 kWp, hydro-power plants are eligible up to a capacity of 2 MW (§1 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012).</p>
	<b>Wind energy</b>	Eligible (§ 12 par. 1 no. 2 a) ÖSG 2012).
	<b>Solar energy</b>	<p>Eligible under the following condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The installation’s capacity shall exceed 5 kWp (§ 12 par. 2 no. 3 ÖSG 2012 in conjunction with § 1 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012).</li> </ul>
	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	<p>Eligible under the following condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plants shall reach an efficiency of at least 60% (§ 12 par. 2 no. 4 ÖSG 2012 in conjunction with § 2 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2016).</li> </ul>
	<b>Biogas</b>	<p>Eligible under the following condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plants shall reach an efficiency of at least 60% (§ 12 par. 2 no. 4 ÖSG 2012 in conjunction with § 2 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012).</li> </ul>



	<b>Hydro-power</b>	<p>Eligible under the following condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The plant's capacity shall not exceed 2 MW (§ 12 par. 1 no. 2 e) ÖSG 2012 in conjunction with § 1 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012).</li> <li>Revitalised hydro-power installations with an increased capacity of at least 50% or 15% (§12 par. 1 and 2 Ö-SET VO 2012 in accordance with § 5 par. 1 ÖSG 2012)</li> </ul>
	<b>Biomass</b>	<p>Eligible under the following condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plants shall reach an efficiency of at least 60% (§ 12 par. 2 no. 4 ÖSG 2012 in conjunction with § 2 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012).</li> </ul>
<b>Amount</b>	<b>General information</b>	The amount of tariff is determined for each source of energy by the Minister of Science, Research and Economy (§ 19 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).
	<b>Wind energy</b>	If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 9.45 per kWh, dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015 (§§ 6 and 13 a par. 2 ÖSET-VO 2012)
	<b>Solar energy</b>	<p><b>PV installations on roof-tops and façades</b> with capacities over 5 kWp, up to 200 kWp, if application submitted and contract concluded until the end of 2015: €ct 11,5 per kWh (§ 13 a par. 2 a ÖSET-VO 2012)</p> <p>In addition to the feed-in tariff, an investment subsidy of 30 % of the investment costs up to 200 € per kWp is granted for PV installations on buildings (§ 13 par. 2 a ÖSET-VO 2012)</p>



	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 7.43 per kWh, dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015 (§§ 7 and 13 a par. 2 ÖSET-VO 2012)
	<b>Biogas</b>	<p><b>Biogas plants:</b></p> <p>If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 12.93 – 19.50 per kWh, depending on the maximum capacity. The tariff drops by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015 (§§ 10 and 13 a par. 2 ÖSET-VO 2012)</p> <p>The tariff is only granted if pure agricultural substrates and animal manure with a share of 30% are deployed which has to be declared to the Clearing and Settlement Agency annually. If other input materials are used, the tariff will be cut by 20% (§ 10 par. 2 ÖSET-VO 2016).</p> <p><b>Electricity from CHP-plants (CHP-bonus)</b></p> <p>For CHP-plants operating on the basis of biogas for which an application has been submitted within the prescribed period, (§§ 10 par. 2 subpar. 2 Ö-SET 2012 in accordance with 15 ÖSG) the feed-in tariff applying for biogas is granted with a premium of ct€ 2 per kWh if certain criteria are fulfilled (§ 10 par. 4 Ö-SET VO 2012 in accordance with § 8 par. 2 CHP-Act ).</p> <p><b>Biomethane</b></p> <p>For electricity which is processed to the same standard as natural gas</p>





		<p>and is furnished from biogas plants, following feed-in tariffs are granted in 2013 (§ 10 par. 6 Ö-SET VO 2012 in accordance with 8 par. 3 ÖSG 2012): €ct 12.93 - 16.93 per kWh, dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015.</p> <p><b>Technology Bonus</b></p> <p>For electricity from gas, a premium of €ct 2 per kWh is granted if the biogas fed into the grid has been upgraded to natural gas quality (§ 21 par. 1 ÖSG 2012 in accordance with § 10 par. 6 subpar. 7 ÖSET-VO 2012).</p> <p><b>Sewage gas plants:</b></p> <p>If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 5.94 per kWh, dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015 (§ 11 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012)</p> <p><b>Landfill gas plants:</b></p> <p>If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 4.95 per kWh, dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015 (§ 11 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012)</p>
	Hydro-power	<p>New or revitalised hydro-power plants which have increased their efficiency by at least 50 % (§ 12 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012):</p> <p>If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 4.97 – 10.55 per kWh, depending on the amount of electricity fed into the grid. The tariff is dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015.</p>



		<p>Revitalised hydro-power plants which have increased their efficiency by at least 15 % (§ 12 par. 2 ÖSET-VO 2012):</p> <p>If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 3.23 – 8.26 per kWh, depending on the amount of electricity fed into the grid. The tariff is dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015.</p>
	<b>Biomass</b>	<p><b>Solid biomass:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If application is submitted in 2013: According to maximum capacity: €ct 10.94 – 19.90 per kWh (§8 par. 1 No. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012)</li> <li>• If total installed capacity exceeds 100 MW (application is submitted 2016): According to maximum capacity: €ct 8.90 – 14 per kWh (§ 8 par. 1 No. 3 ÖSET-VO 2012)</li> </ul> <p>All tariffs dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015.</p> <p><b>Liquid biomass:</b></p> <p>If the application is submitted in 2013: €ct 5.74 per kWh, dropping by 1% p. a. until the end of 2015 (§ 9 par. 1 ÖSET-VO 2012)</p>
<b>Degression</b>	<b>General information</b>	<p>The tariff for new plants may be gradually reduced to reflect the development of costs for a certain technology. The amount of annual reduction is determined by order of the Minister of Science, Research and Economy (§ 19 par. 2 ÖSG 2012). Within the regulation on the feed-in tariffs for 2012-2015 (ÖSET-VO 2012) a degression of 1% per year is foreseen for the FiT of every green electricity plant, except for</p>



		PV installations whereas the FiT is set on an annual basis through an amendment of the Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (§ 13 par. 1 and 2 ÖSET-VO 2012)
	Wind energy	
	Solar energy	
	Geothermal energy	
	Biogas	
	Hydro-power	
	Biomass	
Cap		
Eligibility period	<p>Entitlement to the tariff is time-limited, regardless of the source of energy used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Biomass and biogas technologies.</b> A given operator of a plant fuelled by solid or liquid biomass or biogas is entitled to the purchase of all electricity he exports to the grid and to the payment of the tariff applicable on the date on which the contract is concluded, for 15 years starting on the date on which the plant is put into operation (§ 16 par. 1 no. 1 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• <b>Other plants.</b> A given operator of any other renewable energy plant is entitled to the purchase of electricity exported and to the payment of the tariff applicable on the date on which the contract is concluded, for 13 years starting on the date on which the plant is put into operation (§ 16 par. 1 no. 2 ÖSG 2012).</li> </ul>	
Addressees	<p><b>Entitled party.</b> The persons entitled to the tariff are the operators of renewable energy plants. In order for a plant operator to be entitled to the tariff, the plant he claims tariff for must be licensed as a “green electricity plant” (Ökostromanlage).</p>	



	<p>Plants are licensed by the governor (§ 7 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</p> <p><b>Obligated party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Clearing and Settlement Agency.</b> The Clearing and Settlement Agency is obliged to the purchase of all electricity generated from renewable energy sources as long as funds are available (§ 14 par. 2 and 3 ÖSG 2012). The Clearing and Settlement Agency is a private enterprise that has a state licence and is responsible for the purchase and sale of electricity from renewable sources within the territory of Austria (§ 31 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• <b>Electricity trader.</b> The second party obligated to satisfy a claim for the feed-in tariff are the electricity traders, who are obliged to purchase the quantities of electricity assigned to them by the Clearing and Settlement Agency at the transfer price set by law (§ 40 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</li> </ul>	
Procedure	Process flow	<p>The Clearing and Settlement Agency is obliged to purchase electricity from all renewable sources regardless of the generation technology used, under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are still funds available for the current year (§ 14 par. 3 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• The plant in question has been commissioned and the contract with the Clearing and Settlement Agency has been concluded according to § 39 ÖSG 2012.</li> <li>• The producer in question is obliged to supply green electricity for at least twelve calendar months (§ 14 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</li> <li>• The producer is obliged to join the eco-balance group (§ 14 par. 2 ÖSG 2012).</li> </ul>
	Competent authority	Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWfW)
Flexibility Mechanism		



Distribution of costs	State	
	Consumers	The costs of the support system are borne by the end users (§§ 44, 45 and 48 ÖSG 2012).
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	<p><b>1. Fixed green electricity rate (Ökostrompauschale).</b> On the one hand, the costs are passed on to the consumers, who have to pay a fixed green electricity rate. The rate is redefined by the Minister for Science, Research and Economy every three years through a regulation on fixed charges for electricity from renewable energy sources. (§ 45 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</p> <p><b>Consumers – grid operator.</b> The grid operators charge all users (large-scale consumers, private households) a fixed rate (Ökostrompauschale), which differs according to the level of consumption, on top of the grid use fee (§ 45 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</p> <p>For 2015 - 2017, the support fee is as follows (§ 45 par. 2 ÖSG 2012):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The fixed support fee ('Ökostrompauschale') is determined by the Minister for Science, Research and Economy for a period of three years (§ 45 par. 2 ÖSG 2012). The regulation on fixed charges for electricity from renewable energy sources sets out the fixed fee for 2015-2017 ('Regulation on fixed</li> </ul>



		<p>and compensatory charges 2015') as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For users connected to voltage levels 1 to 3: € 104,444</li> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 4: € 104,444</li> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 5: € 15,517</li> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 6: € 955</li> <li>• For users connected to voltage level 7: € 33</li> </ul> <p><b>Grid operator – Clearing and Settlement Agency.</b> The grid operator is obliged to transfer the income from the fixed green electricity rate to the Clearing and Settlement Agency every quarter (§ 47 par. 1 ÖSG 2012).</p> <p><b>2. Additional compensatory charge (Ökostromförderbeitrag).</b> To cover the additional costs of the Clearing and Settlement Agency, the consumers have to pay an additional compensatory charge (§ 48 par. 1 ÖSG 2012). The fees amount up to 30.76% of the grid utilisation and network loss charge for 2015 (§§ 1 Regulation on fixed and compensatory charges 2015 in accordance with 48 par. 1 ÖSG).</p> <p><b>3. Revenues from sales.</b> On the other hand, the feed-in tariff is financed from the revenues made by the Clearing and Settlement Agency from the sale of electricity from renewable sources to the electricity traders. The revenue results from the difference between the market price and the higher price electricity traders have to pay according to §37 in conjunction with § 40 ÖSG 2012. Electricity traders may pass on to the final consumers the difference between the price they pay and the market price they charge.</p> <p><b>4. Other revenues.</b> Other costs incurred by the Clearing and Settlement Agency, like administrative costs, investments related to the execution of its tasks (e.g. reserve capacity costs), the costs of support for new technologies and energy efficiency programmes, or bonus</p>
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		<p>payments for renewable energy plants fuelled by liquid biomass or biogas (§ 21 ÖSG 2012), are recovered through the following payments (§ 42 par. 2 ÖSG 2012):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• income earned from administrative fines</li><li>• other income</li><li>• income from interest payments.</li></ul>
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## RES-E grid issues

### Overview

<b>Overview of grid issues</b>	In Austria, electricity from renewable sources is granted access to the grid according to the general legislation on energy and according to non-discriminatory principles. Only the use of the grid by electricity from renewable energy sources is subject to a specific order. When grid capacity is insufficient, grid operators are obliged to give priority transmission to electricity from renewable sources.
<b>Connection to the grid</b>	Plant operators are entitled against the grid operator to the conclusion of a contract on the connection of a power generation plant to the grid. The exact conditions are laid down in the implementing legislation of the federal states (Länder). Renewable energy plants are not given priority for the connection to the grid.
<b>Use of the grid</b>	Electricity from renewable sources must be given priority transmission when grid capacity is not sufficient to meet all requests for use of the grid. In general, entitlement to the use of the grid depends on the general legislation on energy and must be implemented so as not to discriminate against certain grid users.
<b>Grid expansion</b>	A grid user is entitled to the conclusion of a contract with the grid operator on the expansion of the grid, if this expansion is necessary to satisfy a claim for connection to the grid. The exact conditions are laid down in the implementing legislation of the individual Länder.
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ElWOG (Bundesgesetz, mit dem die Organisation auf dem Gebiet der Elektrizitätswirtschaft neu geregelt wird - Federal Act providing new rules on the organisation of the electricity sector)</li> <li>• SNE-VO 2012 (Verordnung der Regulierungskommission E-Control, mit der die Entgelte für die Systemnutzung bestimmt werden - Order of the E-Control commission on the calculation of charges for use of the grid)</li> <li>• ÖSG 2012 (Ökostromgesetz - Bundesgesetz, mit dem Neuregelungen auf dem Gebiet der Elektrizitätserzeugung aus Erneuerbaren Energieträgern und auf dem Gebiet der Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung erlassen werden - Federal Act on the Support of Electricity Produced from Renewable Energy Sources and on Combined Heat and Power)</li> </ul>





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**Basic information on legal sources**

<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	Bundesgesetz, mit dem die Organisation auf dem Gebiet der Elektrizitätswirtschaft neu geregelt wird (Elektrizitätswirtschafts- und -organisationsgesetz – ElWOG 2010)	Verordnung der Regulierungskommission E-Control, mit der die Entgelte für die Systemnutzung bestimmt werden (Systemnutzungsentgelte-Verordnung 2012 in der Fassung der Novelle 2015, SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015)	Bundesgesetz, mit dem Neuregelungen auf dem Gebiet der Elektrizitätserzeugung aus Erneuerbaren Energieträgern und auf dem Gebiet der Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung erlassen werden (Ökostromgesetz - ÖSG)
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Federal Act providing new rules on the organisation of the electricity sector (ElWOG 2010)	Order of the E-Control commission on the calculation of charges for use of the grid (Systemnutzungsentgelte-Verordnung 2012 in der Fassung der Novelle 2015, SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015)	Federal Act on the Support of Electricity Produced from Renewable Energy Sources and on Combined Heat and Power (ÖSG 2012)
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	ElWOG	SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015	ÖSG 2012
<b>Entry into force</b>	01.12.1998	01.01.2012	24.08.2002
<b>Last amended on</b>	06.08.2013	17.12.2014	01.07.2012



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Future amendments			
<b>Purpose</b>	Establishing rules for the generation, transmission, distribution and supply of electricity and the organisation of the electricity market; regulating fees related to the supply of electricity and making provisions with regard to accounting (§ 3 ElWOG).	This order defines the process of cost allocation, guidelines for the allocation of plants to the voltage levels and the calculation of system user fees (§ 1 SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015).	The act regulates the support system for electricity from renewable sources and the use of certificates of origin.
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This law gives non-discriminatory grid access to renewable energy. In addition, its general rules on grid use are also applicable to renewable energy.	The rules imposed by the SNE-VO 2012 shall also be applied to the use of the grid by electricity from renewable sources.	The act aims to promote renewable energy and combined heat and power only.
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20007045">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20007045</a>	<a href="https://www.e-control.at/documents/20903/415340/SNE+2012+idF+Novelle+2015_konsolidiert/8b5eac88-4a45-4a30-9843-5107cbe98d98">https://www.e-control.at/documents/20903/415340/SNE+2012+idF+Novelle+2015_konsolidiert/8b5eac88-4a45-4a30-9843-5107cbe98d98</a>	<a href="https://www.e-control.at/documents/20903/415340/SNE+2012+idF+Novelle+2015_konsolidiert/8b5eac88-4a45-4a30-9843-5107cbe98d98">https://www.e-control.at/documents/20903/415340/SNE+2012+idF+Novelle+2015_konsolidiert/8b5eac88-4a45-4a30-9843-5107cbe98d98</a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>			



**Further information**

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
<b>Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWfW), Energy and Mining Department</b>	<a href="http://www.en.bmwfw.gv.at/Energy/Energystategyandpolicy/Seiten/default.aspx">http://www.en.bmwfw.gv.at/Energy/Energystategyandpolicy/Seiten/default.aspx</a>		+43 171 10 00	service@bmwfw.gv.at
<b>E-Control Ltd. - Deregulation agency</b>	<a href="http://www.e-control.at/">http://www.e-control.at/</a>		+43 124 72 40	<a href="mailto:office@e-control.at">office@e-control.at</a>
<b>Austrian Energy Agency</b>	<a href="http://en.energyagency.at/">http://en.energyagency.at/</a>		+43 158 615 240	<a href="mailto:office@energyagency.at">office@energyagency.at</a>
<b>Clearing and Settlement Agency for Green Electricity (OeMAG – Abwicklungsstelle für Ökostrom)</b>	<a href="http://www.oem-ag.at/de/home/">http://www.oem-ag.at/de/home/</a>		+43 5 787 66 0	<a href="mailto:info@oem-ag.at">info@oem-ag.at</a>



## Grid issues

### Connection to the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ElWOG</li> <li>• SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015</li> </ul>	
Overview	<p>In Austria, the Federal Act is only a framework legislation, i.e. it does not provide detailed rules. Specific provisions are laid down in the legislation of the state governments. In general, the following rules apply: A plant operator is entitled against the grid operator to the conclusion of an agreement to connect a renewable energy plant to the grid (general obligation to connect, § 5 par. 1 no. 2 ElWOG). Specific conditions for connection are agreed upon with the grid operator in charge and laid down in a grid access agreement as defined in § 7 no. 55 ElWOG. A claim for connection to the grid arises on the date on which the grid access agreement is concluded. A grid operator is defined as an operator of a transmission or distribution grid that has a nominal frequency of 50 Hz (§ 7 no. 51 ElWOG). The detailed conditions for entitlement to connection are laid down in the implementing legislation of the state governments and in the terms and conditions of the grid operators.</p>	
Procedure	Process flow	<p>The stages of the connection process are not defined by law. The connection process usually consists of the following steps which have to be developed by the legislation of the state governments (§17 par. 2 ElWOG) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Application.</b> The plant operator applies to the grid operator for connection to the grid. The implementation laws of the state governments may provide simplified procedures for the connection of RES- or CHP-plants to the grid (§12 par. 2 ElWOG)</li> <li>• <b>Technical test.</b> The grid operator assesses whether establishing a connection is technically feasible.</li> <li>• <b>Agreement.</b> The plant operator and the grid operator conclude a connection agreement, which is required to complete the connection process.</li> <li>• <b>Extension/reinforcement.</b> If required, the grid is reinforced or extended.</li> <li>• <b>Connection.</b> The plant is connected and may export electricity to the grid.</li> </ul>



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	<b>Deadlines</b>	Applications for connection of a plant to the grid and for access to the grid shall be answered within a period of 14 days (§ 17 par. 3 no. 12 ElWOG).
	<b>Obligation to inform</b>	
<b>Priority to renewable energy</b>  <b>(qualitative criteria)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority to renewable energy  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-discrimination	All plant operators have the same right to the connection of their plants to the grid, irrespective of the energy source used (§§ 9, 40 no. 9, §§ 28 par. 8 no. 3 , 45 par. 20 ElWOG).
<b>Capacity limits</b>  <b>(quantitative criteria)</b>	The contractual obligation to connect RES-E plants to the grid does not necessarily imply that grid operators also have to reinforce the grid, if this is necessary to practically allow new producers to connect to the grid. Such an obligation is not regulated in the federal and regional electricity laws. Therefore, plant operators have to conclude a contract with grid operators first, in order to claim the reinforcement.	
<b>Distribution of costs</b>		
	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	The costs of connection to the grid are borne by the grid users (§ 54 par. 1 ElWOG ). A grid user shall be defined as every natural person, legal entity or Erwerbsgesellschaft that exports electricity to or receives electricity from a grid (§ 7 Z. 49 ElWOG). Thus the costs of the connection of a renewable energy plant are borne by the plant operator, who pays the so-called grid-access fee which is expense-based whereas the grid operator might foresee a flat rate for plants of the same grid level (§ 54 par. 2 ElWOG). In case a flat rate is deployed, the grid operator has to publish the amount in an appropriate way (e.g. via internet) (§ 12 par. 4 SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015). In addition, he has to pay



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		fees for measurements that have to be taken during the construction, the operation and the gauging of metering devices and the collection of data which are exactly determined by regulation (§ 10 par. 1 SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015).
	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	



### Use of the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ElWOG</li> <li>• SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015</li> <li>• ÖSG 2012</li> </ul>	
Overview	<p>The grid operators are entitled to the conclusion of grid access agreements, which set out the rules for connection to and use of the grid (§ 5 par. 1 no. 2 ElWOG in conjunction with § 7 no. 55 ElWOG). A claim for the purchase and transmission of electricity arises on the date on which a grid access agreement is concluded.</p> <p><b>Entitled party.</b> The entitled parties are the grid users (§ 54 par. 1 no. 2 ElWOG). A grid user is every natural person, legal entity or commercial enterprise that exports electricity to or receives electricity from a grid (§ 7 no. 49 ElWOG). In the present case, the grid users are the plant operators.</p> <p><b>Obligated party.</b> The obligated party is the grid operator (§ 5 par. 1 no. 2 ElWOG). Grid operators are the operators of transmission or distribution grids whose nominal frequency is 50 Hz (§ 7 no. 51 ElWOG).</p>	
Procedure	Process flow	<p>The Clearing and Settlement Agency, which is entitled to the execution of renewable electricity is obliged to purchase and transmit all electricity from renewable sources. According to § 12 of the ÖSG 2012, this obligation to purchase is applicable only until a certain capacity is reached. The plant operators are obliged to provide additional services. These services and related terms and conditions are set out in the grid connection agreements. The grid operator may deny access to the grid only under the circumstances described by law (disruption, insufficient grid capacity, etc.) (§ 20 ElWOG).</p>
	Deadlines	<p>On the national level, the obligation to give priority transmission to electricity from renewable energy sources is not subject to statutory deadlines.</p>
	Obligation to inform	<p>If grid access was denied due to insufficient capacity, the grid operator shall inform the plant operator on the measures required to reinforce the grid and why these have not</p>





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		yet been taken.
<b>Priority to renewable energy</b>  <b>(qualitative criteria)</b>	( x ) Priority to renewable energy  ( ) Non-discrimination	The transmission of electricity from renewable energy sources has to be given priority over the transmission of electricity from other, non-renewable energy sources when capacity is not sufficient to meet all demands for use of the grid (§ 20 ElWOG). Apart from that, the grid operator may deny grid use to electricity from traditional energy sources to prevent electricity from renewable sources from being driven out of the market even though the price for renewable energy is in line with current market prices. In doing so, he is entitled to sell this electricity to third parties (§ 21 par. 1 ElWOG).
<b>Curtailment</b>	<p>The grid operator may refuse access to the grid only in several legally defined cases, e.g. grid failures, lack of grid capacity or if RES-E would be crowded out (§ 21 par. 1 ElWOG). In these cases, the grid operators must give priority to RES-E.</p> <p>In cases of dispute, the regulator has to determine whether or not the requirements for curtailment measures were fulfilled (§ 22 par. ElWOG). Grid operators have to explain the refusal in written form. In case of a curtailment due to lacking grid capacities, the grid operator has to provide information about which measures are necessary to reinforce the grid and why this has not happened yet.</p>	
<b>Distribution of costs</b>		
	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	<p>For the transmission grid: 63 % of the costs for the use of the grid are distributed between final consumers according to the so-called “Brutto-Wälzverfahren” in Austria and Vorarlberg and 40% within the Region of Tyrol while the remaining 40 % or 60% are distributed according to the so-called “Netto-Wälzverfahren” (§ 2 par. 1 SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015).</p> <p>The costs for the use of the distribution grid are distributed between final consumers</p>



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		according to the particular distribution grid level they are connected to (§ 2 par. 2 SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015).
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	



Grid expansion

Abbreviated form of legal source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ElWOG</li> <li>• SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015</li> </ul>	
Overview	<p>A plant operator may be contractually entitled against the grid operator to the expansion of the grid, if the expansion is necessary to establish a connection to the grid. The plant operator is entitled to the conclusion of such a contract. The exact conditions are laid down in the implementing legislation of the individual Länder (§ 12 par. 1 ElWOG).</p> <p><b>Entitled party.</b> The entitled parties are the grid users. A grid user is every natural person, legal entity or commercial enterprise that exports electricity to or receives electricity from a grid (§ 7 no. 49 ElWOG). For further information, please see the implementing legislation of the individual Länder.</p> <p><b>Obligated party.</b> The party obligated to expand the grid is the grid operator (§ 40 par. 1 no. 7 and. § 45 ElWOG). Further details are specified in the implementing legislation of the Länder.</p>	
Procedure	Process flow	
	Enforcement of claims	The RES producer cannot legally demand the grid operator to develop the grid, unless the grid operator agreed to this in a separate contract. A claim for the expansion of the grid arises on the date of the conclusion of the contract.
	Deadlines	Time limits for a possible claim for the expansion of the grid depend on the contract concluded.
	Obligation to inform	
Regulatory incentives for grid expansion and innovation	Grid operators are obliged by national law to operate, maintain and develop the grid. In doing so they shall consider economic conditions as well as the protection of the environment (§ 40 ElWOG). Neither the national nor the regional laws, however, define a specific obligation to develop the grid in order to enable the deployment or the integration of RES-E. Therefore, the Austrian legal framework provides no instrument that would enable the regulator to take future RES deployment as a specific objective into account when regulating tariffs.	
Distribution of costs		



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	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	Pursuant to the general provisions of energy law, the costs of the expansion of the grid are borne by the "receivers" (§ 3 SNE-VO 2012 idF 2015 Novelle). One group of receivers are final consumers that receive electricity from the grid (§ 7 no. 14 ElWOG).
	<b>Grid operator</b>	Grid operators that receive electricity from the grid are also deemed to be receivers (§ 7 no. 14 ElWOG).
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	The expansion of the grid is financed from the so-called grid provision fee. The grid provision fee is a once-only payment that reflects all works already carried out or paid for in advance to expand those grid levels that are actually used. The tariffs are set out by a regulation on the system charges (§ 7 SNE-VO 2012 idF Novelle 2015).
<b>Grid studies</b>	<p>Every year, the transmission grid operator shall submit a 10-year grid development plan to the regulatory authority for authorisation. The development plan shall be based on the current situation and the forecasts for electricity supply and demand and help meet the future demand for grid capacity (§ 37 ElWOG).</p> <p>The current development plan for the planning period 2016-2025 is available on the following website: <a href="https://www.apg.at/de/netz/netzausbau/Netzentwicklungsplan">https://www.apg.at/de/netz/netzausbau/Netzentwicklungsplan</a> (released 2 November 2015)</p>	



## RES-H&C support schemes

### Summary of support schemes

<b>Overview</b>	The national programme for the Environmental Assistance in Austria (UFI) provides investment grants to companies or other entrepreneurial organisations for the realisation of projects which have a positive impact on the environment. Selected projects might benefit from EU funding. Further,, heating and cooling from renewable energy sources is supported through an incentive scheme on the level of the individual federal states (“Länder”).
<b>Summary of support schemes</b>	The most substantial form of supporting small-scale RES heating and cooling is provided by the Environmental Assistance in Austria (UFI) programme whereas mainly companies, other entrepreneurial organisations, confessional facilities and associations can profit from investment subsidies. There are special investment incentives for solar thermal installations, heat pumps, geothermics and biomass heating plants.
<b>Technologies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar thermal installations</li> <li>• Heat pumps</li> <li>• Biomass heating plants</li> <li>• Geothermics</li> </ul>
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UFG (Umweltförderungsgesetz - Environmental Aid Act)</li> <li>• Guidelines 2015 (Förderungsrichtlinien 2015 für die Umweltförderung im Inland - Funding Guidelines 2015 for the Environmental Assistance in Austria)</li> </ul>



**Basic information on legal sources**

<b>Name of legal source</b> (original language)	Umweltförderungsgesetz (BGBl. Nr. 185/1993)	Förderungsrichtlinien 2015 für die Umweltförderung im Inland	
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Environmental Aid Act (BGBl. No. 185/1993)	Funding Guidelines 2015 for the Environmental Assistance in Austria	
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	UFG	Guidelines 2015	
<b>Entry into force</b>	16.03.1993	20.02.2015	
<b>Last amended on</b>	22.04.2015		
<b>Future amendments</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	The Environmental Aid Act regulates the support of measures to protect the environment.	The guidelines regulate the financial support of environmental protection measures foreseen by the UFG	
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This act also regulates the support of renewable energy	The guidelines also regulate the financial support of renewable energy measures	
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original)</b>			



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language)	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=10010755">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=10010755</a>	<a href="https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/fileadmin/user_upload/media/umweltfoerderung/Uebergeordnete_Dokumente/fri_ufr_2015.pdf">https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/fileadmin/user_upload/media/umweltfoerderung/Uebergeordnete_Dokumente/fri_ufr_2015.pdf</a>	
Link to full text of legal source (English)			



Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH – Settlement Agency	<a href="http://www.umweltfoerderung.at">www.umweltfoerderung.at</a>		+43(0)1-31 6 31	<a href="mailto:kpc@kommunalkredit.at">kpc@kommunalkredit.at</a>
Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft / Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management	<a href="http://www.bmlfuw.gv.at/en/">http://www.bmlfuw.gv.at/en/</a>		(+43 1) 711 00-0	<a href="mailto:service@bmlfuw.gv.at">service@bmlfuw.gv.at</a>





**Support schemes**

**Subsidy (Environmental Assistance in Austria - UFI)**

<p><b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UFG</li> <li>• Guidelines 2015</li> </ul>
<p><b>Summary</b></p>	<p>The Environmental Aid Act (UFG) provides for the general support of schemes to protect the environment. The UFG is divided into several fields of action; incentives to use energy from RES in the heating and cooling sector are provided in the Environmental Assistance in Austria (UFI) field of action. (§ 23 par. 1 UFG in conjunction with § 4 par. 1 Guidelines 2015)</p> <p>On the one hand, promoting small-scale RES heating and cooling is applied at a federal level carried out through the national corporate environmental support programme (UFI – betriebliche Umweltförderung im Inland). There are special investment incentives for solar thermal installations, heat pumps, geothermics and biomass heating plants, especially for businesses. All projects eligible for support are listed on the website of the settlement agency Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH (KPC):</p> <p><a href="https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/alle-foerderungen.html">https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/alle-foerderungen.html</a></p> <p>On the other hand, the 9 federal states offer different measures for the enhancement of energy efficiency or the increased use of renewable energy in the area of advisory services or also investment subsidies. Depending on the project, either the subsidy is granted additionally to the UFI or the grants are mutually exclusive. Especially concerning support schemes for private individuals in the scope of housing subsidies or for farmers in the agricultural sector, guidelines and eligibility criteria might vary significantly. One of the most outstanding federal states is Styria, granting high amounts of subsidies for solar thermal installations or biomass heating plants. The federal state government is the authority responsible for subsidies granted on the federal state level.</p> <p>Therefore, the final amount of subsidies depends strongly on where the applicant resides. Different offers of the federal</p>



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	<p>states (for businesses) are listed on the following website (in German):</p> <p><a href="https://www.wko.at/Content.Node/Service/Umwelt-und-Energie/Nachhaltigkeit-und-Umweltmanagement/Energie-und-Umweltfoerderung/Betriebliche_Umweltfoerderung_in_den_Bundeslaendern.html">https://www.wko.at/Content.Node/Service/Umwelt-und-Energie/Nachhaltigkeit-und-Umweltmanagement/Energie-und-Umweltfoerderung/Betriebliche_Umweltfoerderung_in_den_Bundeslaendern.html</a></p> <p>In principle, the investment grants for measures supporting the use of energy from renewable sources in the heating and cooling sector differ according to technology. Usually, a flat rate of de minimis support is calculated. “De minimis” allows for aid up to € 200,000 without notifying to the European Commission to be provided from public funds over a period of three years. Another option for support is the ‘standard reimbursement rate’ which mostly amounts to 30 - 45% of the environment-related investment costs and can be increased through awards (sustainability and gas-cleaning awards, etc.) to a maximum of additional 10% (for medium-sized companies) or even 20% (for small-sized companies). In some cases, the application must be made before the beginning of the project and the environment-related investment costs must amount to a certain minimum sum (€ 10,000).</p> <p>The granting of support requires that the applied measure (for investments &gt; € 1 million: the whole operating system) corresponds to the current state of the art and constitutes a substantial relief to the environment. (§ 5 Guidelines 2015)</p>	
Eligible technologies	General information	In the UFI field of action, following technology groups are eligible for support of RE heating and cooling
	Aerothermal	<p><b>Air heat pumps up to 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heat pump systems for operational purposes for heating, hot water supply, for space cooling</li> <li>These include heat pumps, heat source systems, hydraulic installations, system regulation</li> </ul> <p><b>Air heat pumps from 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heat pump systems for operational purposes for heating, hot</li> </ul>



		<p>water supply, for space cooling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These include heat pumps, heat source systems, hydraulic installations, system regulation</li> </ul>
	Hydrothermal	<p><b>Water heat pumps up to 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat pump systems for operational purposes for heating, hot water supply, for space cooling</li> <li>• These include heat pumps, heat source systems, hydraulic installations, system regulation</li> </ul> <p><b>Water heat pumps from 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat pump systems for operational purposes for heating, hot water supply, for space cooling</li> <li>• These include heat pumps, heat source systems, hydraulic installations, system regulation</li> </ul>
	Biogas	
	Biomass	<p><b>Individual biomass units up to 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automatically stocked biomass combustion plants or log wood boilers in central heating systems for operational purposes</li> <li>• Additional costs (e.g. boiler house, wood chip silos, chipping machine etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Individual biomass units from 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automatically stocked biomass combustion plants or log wood boilers in central heating systems for operational purposes</li> <li>• Additional costs (e.g. boiler house, wood chip silos, chipping machine etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Biomass CHP</b></p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Power stations including automatically stocked biomass combustion plants (feeding, combustion plant, chimney)</li> <li>• Boiler (steam boiler, thermal oil boiler)</li> <li>• Power generation (steam turbine, block heat power plant)</li> <li>• Building measures</li> <li>• Costs for implementing quality management systems</li> </ul>
	Geothermal energy	<p><b>Geothermics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building and plant costs exclusively for the use of geothermics.</li> <li>• This includes drilling, heat exchange and distribution grids, underground injection, cogeneration and the reuse of existing geothermal oil wells</li> </ul> <p><b>Heat pumps up to 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat pump systems for operational purposes for heating, hot water supply, for space cooling</li> <li>• These include heat pumps, heat source systems, hydraulic installations, system regulation</li> </ul> <p><b>Heat pumps from 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat pump systems for operational purposes for heating, hot water supply, for space cooling</li> <li>• These include heat pumps, heat source systems, hydraulic installations, system regulation</li> </ul>
	Solar Thermal	<p><b>Large solar installations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovative solar thermal installations with a collector area between 100 and 2000 m<sup>2</sup> are eligible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Thermal solar installations up to 100 m<sup>2</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar installations for hot water supply or part solar space heating including casing, heat accumulators and distribution</li> </ul>



		<p>grids with a maximum collector area of 100 m<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Thermal solar installations from 100 m<sup>2</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solar installations for hot water supply or part solar space heating including casing, heat accumulators and the provision of process heat with a collector area from 100 m<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>
Amount	<p><b>Individual biomass units &lt; 400 kW:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>€ 120 per kW (0-50 kW), € 60 for each additional kW (51-400 kW)</li> <li>max. 30 % of investment costs</li> </ul> <p><b>Individual biomass units &gt; 400 kW:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>De minimis support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standard reimbursement rate: 20 %</li> <li>Awards: max. 10 %</li> </ul> </li> <li>Support over De minimis limit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>max. 40 % of investment costs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Environment-related investment costs: minimum € 10,000</li> </ul> <p><b>Biomass CHP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>De minimis support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standard reimbursement rate: 10 %</li> <li>Awards: max. 10 %</li> </ul> </li> <li>Support over De minimis limit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>max. 40 % of investment costs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Environment-related investment costs: minimum € 10,000</li> </ul> <p><b>Geothermics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>De minimis support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standard reimbursement rate: 30 %</li> </ul> </li> <li>Support over De minimis limit:</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ max. 40 % of investment costs</li> </ul> <p><b>Heat pumps &lt; 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water heat pumps: € 85 per kWth (0-80 kWth), € 45 for each additional kWth (81-399kWth)</li> <li>• Air heat pumps: € 70 per kWth (0-80 kWth), € 35 for each additional kWth (81-399kWth)</li> <li>• max. 30 % of investment costs</li> </ul> <p><b>Heat pumps &gt; 400 kW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• De minimis support: max. 15 %</li> <li>• Support over De minimis limit: max. 40 %</li> <li>• Environment-related investment costs: minimum € 10,000</li> </ul> <p><b>Thermal solar installations &lt; 100 m<sup>2</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• depending on the type of collector used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ € 100 per m2 for standard collectors</li> <li>○ € 150 per m2 for vacuum collectors</li> </ul> </li> <li>• max. 30 % of investment costs</li> </ul> <p><b>Thermal solar installations &gt; 100 m<sup>2</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• De minimis support: max. 20 %</li> <li>• Support over De minimis limit: max. 40 %</li> <li>• Environment-related investment costs: minimum € 10,000</li> </ul>	
<b>Addressees</b>	Support within UFI is directed primarily at natural or legal persons registered on the territory of Austria (§ 26 par. 1 UFG).	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Application:</b> The grant application is submitted to the settlement agency Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH (KPC).</li> <li>• <b>Evaluation:</b> The KPC assesses the application and forwards it to further evaluation to the Commission on matters of environmental assistance in Austria. (§ 28 UFG)</li> <li>• <b>Decision making:</b> On the basis of the Commission's recommendations, the Federal Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water decides on each application.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Conclusion of a contract:</b> Following the Minister's decision, the KPC signs a contract with the applicant and is responsible for its execution.</li> </ul>
	<b>Competent authority</b>	Responsible for the entire support scheme is the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water. The Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH is entrusted as a settlement agency with the practical development of support programmes.
<b>Flexibility mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	The UFI incentive scheme is financed from the budget of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water. Until 2020, the funding under the UFI amounts to € 90.238 million per year (§6 par. 2 f UFG).
	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	



## ***RES-H&C grid issues***

### Overview

<b>Overview of grid issues</b>	<p>In Austria, district heating networks are managed at local level by the individual heat supply companies. There is no federal regulation providing a legal framework for the connection of RES-H plants to the heating grid. Therefore, the connection to the grid is based on the individual contract with the district heating supply company. Detailed information on the connection process can be provided by the Austrian Association of Gas- and District Heating Supply Companies (FGW).</p> <p>Due to the nature of heat supply, the connection of a heat producing plant to a district heating grid is closely linked to the construction of the specific plant. The procedure of grid connection is at the same time also the procedure for grid development, since the construction of a plant must occur simultaneously with the construction (development) of the district heating grid.</p>
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### Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Fachverband der Gas- und Wärmeversorgungsunternehmen (FGW) / Association of Gas- and District Heating Supply Companies (FGW)	<a href="http://www.gaswaerme.at/">http://www.gaswaerme.at/</a>		+43 1 513 15 880	<a href="mailto:office@gaswaerme.at">office@gaswaerme.at</a>
Austrian Energy Agency	<a href="http://en.energyagency.at/">http://en.energyagency.at/</a>		+43 158 615 240	<a href="mailto:office@energyagency.at">office@energyagency.at</a>
O.Ö. Energiesparverband / Upper-Austrian Energy Saving Association	<a href="http://www.esv.or.at/">http://www.esv.or.at/</a>		+43-732-7720-14380	<a href="mailto:office@esv.or.at">office@esv.or.at</a>



## RES-T support schemes

### Summary of support schemes

<b>Overview</b>	In Austria, the main support scheme for renewable energy sources used in transport is a quota system. This scheme obliges companies importing or producing petrol or diesel to ensure that biofuels make up a defined percentage of their annual fuel sales. Furthermore, biofuels are supported through a fiscal regulation mechanism.
<b>Summary of support schemes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tax regulation mechanism.</b> In Austria, petrol and diesel from a minimum content of 4.6 % resp. 6.6 % of biogenic material are subject to a lower mineral oil tax. Mineral oil solely from biogenic material and E85 are exempt from this tax.</li> <li>• <b>Biofuels quota.</b> To ensure that biofuels make up a defined percentage of the annual fuel sales, there is a substitution obligation in force since 2005. From 2009, the substitution target amounts to 5.75 %, measured by the total fossil petrol or diesel introduced or used in the federal territory.</li> </ul>
<b>Technologies</b>	The tax regulation mechanism and the biofuels quota apply to biofuels only
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuel Order (Kraftstoffverordnung 2012 – Fuel Order 2012)</li> <li>• Mineral Oil Tax Act (Mineralölsteuergesetz 1995 - Mineral Oil Tax Act 1995)</li> <li>• Bioethanol Blending Order (Bioethanolgemischverordnung 2007 – Bioethanol Blending Order 2007)</li> </ul>



### Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source (original language)	Kraftstoffverordnung 2012	Mineralölsteuergesetz 1995	Bioethanolgemischverordnung 2007
Full name	Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über die Qualität von Kraftstoffen und die nachhaltige Verwendung von Biokraftstoffen (BGBl. II Nr. 398/2012)	Bundesgesetz, mit dem die Mineralölsteuer an das Gemeinschaftsrecht angepaßt wird (BGBl. Nr. 630/1994)	Verordnung des Bundesministers für Finanzen über die Begünstigung von Gemischen von Bioethanol und Benzin (BGBl. II Nr. 260/2007)
Name (English)	Fuel Order 2012 (BGBl. II Nr. 398/2012)	Mineral Oil Tax Act 1995 (BGBl. Nr. 630/1994)	Bioethanol Blending Order 2007 (BGBl. II Nr. 260/2007)
Abbreviated form	Fuel Order	Mineral Oil Tax Act	Bioethanol Blending Order
Entry into force	03.12.2012	01.01.1995	01.10.2007
Last amended on	16.10.2014	28.12.2015	02.10.2007
Future amendments			
Purpose	The Fuel Order regulates the general quality of fuels, introduced or used in Austria.	The Mineral Oil Tax Act sets the amount of the federal tax levied on mineral oil in Austria.	This order regulates the tax exemption for mixtures of bioethanol and petrol.



## RES-LEGAL EUROPE – National Profile Austria



<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This order also regulates the requirements for biofuels.	This act also includes tax reductions for biofuels.	This order applies to biofuels only.
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20008075">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20008075</a>	<a href="http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen%20&amp;Gesetzesnummer=10004908">http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen%20&amp;Gesetzesnummer=10004908</a>	<a href="http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20004426">http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20004426</a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>			



Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Bundesministerium für Finanzen / Federal Ministry of Finance	<a href="https://english.bmf.gv.at/">https://english.bmf.gv.at/</a>		(+43 1) 50 233 765	
Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft / Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management	<a href="http://www.bmlfuw.gv.at/en/">http://www.bmlfuw.gv.at/en/</a>		(+43 1) 711 00-0	<a href="mailto:service@bmlfuw.gv.at">service@bmlfuw.gv.at</a>



## Support schemes

### Tax regulation mechanism

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mineral Oil Tax Act</li> <li>• Bioethanol Blending Order</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary</b>	<p>The Mineral Oil Tax (MÖSt) in Austria is a consumption charge through which fuels from mineral oils used in road transport are charged. Petrol and diesel from a minimum content of 4.6 % resp. 6.6 % of biogenic material are subject to a lower mineral oil tax. Mineral oil solely from biogenic material and E85 are exempt from mineral oil tax (§§ 3 and 4 Mineral Oil Tax Act).</p>	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	Subject to the tax allowance are only biofuels.
	<b>Biofuels</b>	<p>Tax reductions or emissions for mineral oils from biogenic materials within the scope of this federal act are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. bioethanol (from biomass and/or biodegradable parts of waste from produced undenatured ethanol)</li> <li>2. fatty acid methyl ester (FAME, biodiesel)</li> <li>3. biogas</li> <li>4. biomethanol</li> <li>5. biodimethylether</li> <li>6. Bio-ETBE (ethyl tertiary butyl ether)</li> <li>7. Bio-MTBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether)</li> <li>8. synthetic biofuel (synthetic hydrocarbons yielded from biomass or synthetic hydrocarbon mix)</li> <li>9. biohydrogen</li> <li>10. pure vegetable oil (§ 3 par. (1a) Mineral Oil Tax Act)</li> </ol>
	<b>Electricity</b>	
	<b>Hydrogen</b>	



## RES-LEGAL EUROPE – National Profile Austria



<b>Amount</b>	<p>Following fuels are subject to tax reductions or are exempt from mineral oil tax:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Petrol containing biogenic materials of at least 4.6 % and no more than 10 mg sulfur per kg: € 0.482 per liter; otherwise € 0.515 – reduction of € 0.033 per litre (§ 3 par. 1 no. 1 e Mineral Oil Tax Act).</li> <li>• Diesel containing biogenic materials of at least 6.6 % and no more than 10 mg sulfur per kg: € 0.397 per liter; otherwise € 0.425 – reduction of € 0.028 per litre (§ 3 par. 1 no. 4 d Mineral Oil Tax Act).</li> <li>• Mineral oil solely from biogenic material is exempt from mineral oil tax (§ 4 par. 1 No. 7 Mineral Oil Tax Act).</li> <li>• Furthermore, it is provided that the biogenic share of super ethanol – E85 is exempt from mineral oil tax, which equals to a tax reduction of € 0.442 per litre (§ 1 par. 2 no. 2 Bioethanol Blending Order).</li> </ul>	
<b>Addressees</b>	<b>Entitled party:</b> End consumers of biofuels resp. fuel producers	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	
	<b>Competent authority</b>	Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance
<b>Flexibility Mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	The costs of the tax exemption are borne by the state, which receives lower tax revenue.
	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	



Biofuel quota

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fuel Order</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary</b>	<p>Since 1 January 2009, the target of substitution of fossil fuels with biofuels amounts to 5.75 %, measured by the total fossil petrol or diesel introduced or used in the federal territory (§5 par. 1 Fuel Order).</p>	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	Subject to the obligation are only biofuels.
	<b>Biofuels</b>	The substitution obligation of fossil fuels with biofuels is technology-neutral. The type of biofuel and of its production technology for the meeting of targets is arbitrary.
	<b>Electricity</b>	
	<b>Hydrogen</b>	
<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount of quota and period of application</b>	<p>Since 1 January 2009, the substitution target amounts to 5.75 %, measured by the total fossil petrol or diesel introduced or used in the federal territory. To meet the overall target, at least a 3.4 % share of biofuels or other renewable fuel must be introduced or used in order to substitute fossil petrol and a share of 6.3 % to substitute fossil diesel (§ 5 par. 1 Fuel Order).</p>
	<b>Adjustment of quotas</b>	The quotas can be subject to further legal amendments.





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	<b>Fees and penalty charges</b>	If biofuels do not comply with the specifications stated in § 3 Fuel Order or do not meet the substitution obligation, they may not be released for free circulation.
<b>Addressees</b>	The parties obliged to substitute are those who introduce or export petrol or diesel to Austria for the first time, unless in the fuel tank of a vehicle (§ 2 par. 10 Fuel Order).	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	The party obliged to substitute must provide every year proof of the quantities of biofuels and other renewable fuels as well as of petrol and diesel fuel introduced or used by it. This proof for the period of one calendar year must arrive on 1 May at the latest of the following year at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water (§ 20 Fuel Order).
	<b>Competent authority</b>	Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water
<b>Flexibility Mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	The costs are borne by the consumers.
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Others</b>	



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	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	The obliged companies pass on the costs arising from the quota obligation to the consumers by adding a surcharge to their fuel.
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## Policies

### Summary of policies

<p><b>Overview</b></p>	<p>The following policies aim at promoting the development, installation and usage of RES-installations in Austria: There are four specialisation programmes for RES-installers, numerous quality standards for RES installations, an agreement determining the exemplary role of public authorities and a building obligation for the use of renewable heating.</p>
<p><b>Summary of policies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are four different specialisation programmes for RES-installers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Certified heat pump installer</li> <li>○ Certified solar heat installer and planner</li> <li>○ Certified photovoltaic installer and planner</li> <li>○ Certified biomass heating installer</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There is no single certification programme for RES installations. However, RES installations must meet certain quality standards in order to be able to be eligible for support.</li> <li>• The exemplary role of public authorities is based on an agreement concluded between the Austrian federal government and the state governments.</li> <li>• Furthermore, the Act on Energy Efficiency obliges to energetic refurbishments up to a share of 3% of all public buildings owned by the federal government until 2020. The regulation is also obligatory for the quasi-governmental Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft, which manages publicly owned real estate in Austria</li> <li>• While RE measures in industrial and commercial buildings are mainly supported at federal level through the Environmental Aid Act, RE measures for residential buildings largely fall within the sphere of competence of the federal states.</li> <li>• There are investment incentives for the integration of RES in order to reinforce the small-scale regional heat supply in rural areas as well as the expansion of district heating in urban centres.</li> </ul>



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<b>Technologies</b>	The available support policies apply for all RES technologies
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EEffG (Bundesgesetz über die Steigerung der Energieeffizienz bei Unternehmen und dem Bund (Bundes-Energieeffizienzgesetz – Federal Act on the enhancement of energy efficiency targeting businesses and the federal government)</li> <li>• WKLG (Wärme- und Kälteleitungsausbaugesetz - Heating and Cooling Network Expansion)</li> <li>• WKLG-Leitlinien 2011 (Guidelines on the Heating and Cooling Network Expansion 2011)</li> <li>• Article 15a B-VG Agreement (Vereinbarung gemäß Art. 15a. B-VG zwischen dem Bund und den Ländern über Maßnahmen im Gebäudesektor zum Zweck der Reduktion des Ausstoßes an Treibhausgasen - Agreement pursuant to Article 15a. B-VG between the federation and the federal states on measures in the building sector for the purpose of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases)</li> <li>• UFG (Umweltförderungsgesetz - Environmental Aid Act )</li> </ul>



### Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source (original language)	Energieeffizienzgesetz (BGBl. I Nr. 72/2014)	Wärme- und Kälteleitungsausbaugesetz (BGBl. I Nr. 113/2008)	Art. 15a B-VG Vereinbarung (BGBl. II Nr. 251/2009)	Umweltförderungsgesetz (BGBl. Nr. 185/1993)
Full name	Bundesgesetz über die Steigerung der Energieeffizienz bei Unternehmen und dem Bund (Bundes-Energieeffizienzgesetz – EEEffG)	Bundesgesetz, mit dem die Errichtung von Leitungen zum Transport von Nah- und Fernwärme sowie Nah- und Fernkälte gefördert wird (Wärme- und Kälteleitungsausbaugesetz – WKLG)	Vereinbarung gemäß Art. 15a. B-VG zwischen dem Bund und den Ländern über Maßnahmen im Gebäudesektor zum Zweck der Reduktion des Ausstoßes an Treibhausgasen	
Name (English)	Federal Act on the enhancement of energy efficiency targeting businesses and the federal government	Heating and Cooling Network Expansion Act (BGBl. I No. 113/2008)	Agreement pursuant to Article 15a. B-VG between the federation and the federal states on measures in the building sector for the purpose of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases	Environmental Aid Act (BGBl. No. 185/1993)
Abbreviated form	EEffG	WKLG	Article 15a B-VG Agreement	UFG
Entry into force	11.08.2014	08.08.2008	13.08.2009	16.03.1993
Last amended on		11.08.2014		22.04.2015
Future amendments				



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<b>Purpose</b>	The act adopts the criteria set out by the 2012/27/EG directive on energy efficiency with the objective of improving the energy efficiency by 20% until 2020.	The act provides a framework for increasing the district heating (and cooling) infrastructure in Austria	Promoting the use of energy efficient technologies and renewable energy in the building sector	The Environmental Aid Act regulates the support of measures to protect the environment.
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	The act should also contribute indirectly to the increase of the proportion of RES and the decrease of GHG-emissions.	This act also relates to renewable energy.	This agreement also regulates the use of renewable energy in the building sector.	This act also regulates the support of renewable energy
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20008914">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20008914</a>	<a href="http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokument/BgblAuth/BGBLA_2008_I_113/BGBLA_2008_I_113.html">http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokument/BgblAuth/BGBLA_2008_I_113/BGBLA_2008_I_113.html</a>	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20006413">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=20006413</a>	<a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=10010755">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&amp;Gesetzesnummer=10010755</a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>				

<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	Leitlinien 2011 für die Gewährung von Förderungen nach dem Wärme- und Kälteleitungsausbaugesetz (WKLG), BGBl. Teil I Nr. 113 / 2008.
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<b>Full name</b>	
<b>Name (English)</b>	Guidelines on the Subsidies for the Heating and Cooling Network Expansion 2011
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	WKLG—Guidelines 2011
<b>Entry into force</b>	24.03.2011
<b>Last amended on</b>	
<b>Future amendments</b>	01.01.2016
<b>Purpose</b>	The guidelines determine the conditions for subsidies granted through the WKLG for the expansion of the heating and cooling network
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	The guidelines also relate to renewable energy
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="http://www.awista.at/awista/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/Leitlinie">http://www.awista.at/awista/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/Leitlinie</a>



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	n-zum-WKLG-2011-03-243.pdf
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>	





**Further information**

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH	<a href="http://www.ait.ac.at">http://www.ait.ac.at</a>		+43 (0) 50 550-6612	<a href="mailto:office@ait.ac.at">office@ait.ac.at</a>
Austrian Biomass Association / Österreichischer Biomasse-Verband	<a href="http://www.biomasseverband.at">http://www.biomasseverband.at</a>		+43-1-533 07 97	<a href="mailto:office@biomasseverband.at">office@biomasseverband.at</a>
Austrian Standards Institute (ASI)	<a href="http://www.as-institute.at">http://www.as-institute.at</a>		+43 1 213 00	<a href="mailto:office@as-institute.at">office@as-institute.at</a>
AWISTA GmbH – settlement agency	<a href="http://www.awista.at/">http://www.awista.at/</a>		+43 316 466524	<a href="mailto:office@awista.at">office@awista.at</a>
Austrian Climate and Energy Fund / Klima- und Energiefonds	<a href="http://www.klimafonds.gv.at/">http://www.klimafonds.gv.at/</a>		+43 (0)1 585 03 90	<a href="mailto:office@klimafonds.gv.at">office@klimafonds.gv.at</a>
<u>Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft / Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Environ-</u>	<a href="http://www.bmlfuw.gv.at/en/">http://www.bmlfuw.gv.at/en/</a>		<u>(+43 1) 711 00-0</u>	<a href="mailto:service@bmlfuw.gv.at">service@bmlfuw.gv.at</a>



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<u>ment and Water Management</u>				
<u>Klima Aktiv – Austrian Climate Initiative</u>	<a href="http://www.klimaaktiv.at/bildung.html">http://www.klimaaktiv.at/bildung.html</a>			<a href="mailto:klimaaktiv@energyagency.at">klimaaktiv@energyagency.at</a>
<u>Arbeitsmarktservice Österreich – Labour Market Service Austria</u>	<a href="http://www.ams.at/">http://www.ams.at/</a>			



Policy categories

Training programmes for installers

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	This policy is based on Article 14(3) D 2009/28/EG. This has not yet been implemented in national law.
<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p>In Austria there are currently specialisation programmes for installers in the fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certified heat pump installer,</li> <li>• Certified solar heat installer and planner,</li> <li>• Certified photovoltaic installer and planner,</li> <li>• Certified biomass heating installer</li> </ul> <p>Specialisation programmes for certified heat pump installers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course duration: 5 days, 40 learning units of 45 min</li> <li>• Validity of certificate is limited to three years.</li> </ul> <p>Specialisation programmes for certified solar heat installers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course duration: 8 days, 64 learning units of 45 min</li> <li>• Validity of certificate is limited to three years.</li> </ul> <p>Specialisation programmes for certified photovoltaic installers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course duration: 7 days, 56 learning units of 45 min</li> <li>• Validity of certificate is limited to three years.</li> </ul> <p>Specialisation programmes for certified heat pump installers:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course duration: 5 days, 40 learning units of 45 min</li> <li>• Validity of certificate is limited to three years</li> </ul>
<p><b>Addressees</b></p>	<p>Since the offered trainings are specialisation programmes, the addressees must have certain experiences:</p> <p><b>Certified heat pump installers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plumbers and fitters</li> <li>• Planning engineers</li> <li>• Architects</li> <li>• Engineering firms</li> <li>• HVAC companies</li> <li>• Retailers</li> </ul> <p><b>Certified solar heat installers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plumbers and fitters</li> <li>• Planning engineers</li> <li>• Roofers</li> <li>• Architects</li> <li>• Engineering firms</li> <li>• HVAC companies</li> <li>• Retailers</li> </ul> <p><b>Certified photovoltaic installers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrical engineers</li> <li>• Planning engineers</li> <li>• Roofers</li> <li>• Plumbers and fitters</li> <li>• Architects</li> <li>• Engineering firms</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HVAC companies</li> <li>• Retailers</li> </ul> <p><b>Certified biomass heating installers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plumbers and fitters</li> <li>• Planning engineers</li> <li>• Architects</li> <li>• Engineering firms</li> <li>• HVAC companies</li> <li>• Retailers</li> </ul>
<b>Competent authority</b>	<p>The certification of installers is carried out by the EN ISO/IEC 17024 accredited personal certification body of the Austrian Research and Examination Centre. Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT). The biomass heating installer is accredited by the Biomass Association in collaboration with the Economic Promotion Institute.</p>
<b>Further information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certified heat pump installers: <a href="http://www.ait.ac.at/departments/energy/energy-department/training-education/zertifizierter-waermepumpeninstallateur-bzw-planer/?L=1">http://www.ait.ac.at/departments/energy/energy-department/training-education/zertifizierter-waermepumpeninstallateur-bzw-planer/?L=1</a></li> <li>• Certified solar heat installers: <a href="http://www.ait.ac.at/departments/energy/energy-department/training-education/zertifizierter-solarwaermeinstallateur-bzw-planer/?L=1">http://www.ait.ac.at/departments/energy/energy-department/training-education/zertifizierter-solarwaermeinstallateur-bzw-planer/?L=1</a></li> <li>• Certified photovoltaic installers: <a href="http://www.ait.ac.at/departments/energy/energy-department/training-education/zertifizierter-photovoltaiktechniker-bzw-planer/?L=1">http://www.ait.ac.at/departments/energy/energy-department/training-education/zertifizierter-photovoltaiktechniker-bzw-planer/?L=1</a></li> <li>• Certified biomass heating installers: <a href="http://www.biowaermepartner.at/">http://www.biowaermepartner.at/</a></li> </ul> <p>General information on continuing education (in German):</p> <p><a href="http://www.klimaaktiv.at/bildung/bildung_ener_gebtech/erneuerbare_kurse.html">http://www.klimaaktiv.at/bildung/bildung_ener_gebtech/erneuerbare_kurse.html</a></p>



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<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	The costs for the specialisation programmes might be reduced through promotion grants for continuing education from the federal states or the labour market service for Austria (Arbeitsmarktservice Österreich)
	<b>Private Financing</b>	The costs for the specialisation programmes are borne by the installers themselves.
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Others</b>	



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### Certification Programmes for RES installations

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	The certification programme is based on D 2009/28/EG
<b>Description</b>	<p>In Austria, there is a certification programme for eco-energy engineers ('Öko-Energietechniker/in') which is in line with the D 2009/28/EG. The certification can be given for the following individual modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• eco-energy engineer for heat-pumps</li> <li>• eco-energy engineer for biomass</li> <li>• eco-energy engineer for solar and photovoltaic.</li> </ul> <p>Furthermore, RES installations must meet certain quality standards in order to be able to be entitled to promotion. These quality criteria are established by the Austrian Standards Institute in the form of Ö-Normen (Austrian standards). These standards can be categorised according to following special fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machine safety</li> <li>• Electrical engineering and energy management</li> <li>• Noise restriction</li> <li>• Air quality management</li> <li>• Fermentation / waste disposal</li> <li>• Water management</li> </ul>
<b>Addressees</b>	The certification programme for eco-energy engineers is foreseen for those individuals who have already been subject to the appropriate training.
<b>Competent authority</b>	The certification programme for eco-energy engineers was established by the Ministry for Science, Research and Economy and the standards are set by the Austrian Standards Institute (ASI). Furthermore, the most important Austrian certificates



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	<p>are awarded by following authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machine safety: Austrian Association of Gas and Water (ÖVGW)</li> <li>• Electrical engineering and energy management: Austrian Electrotechnical Association (ÖVE)</li> <li>• Noise restriction: Austrian Society for Noise Abatement (ÖAL)</li> </ul>	
<b>Further information</b>	<p>Further information concerning the certification of eco-energy engineers can be found on following website (in German): <a href="http://zertifizierung.wifi.at/DE/Zertifizierungen/%C3%96KO-Energietechnikerin/oeko_energietechniker_standard.aspx">http://zertifizierung.wifi.at/DE/Zertifizierungen/%C3%96KO-Energietechnikerin/oeko_energietechniker_standard.aspx</a></p> <p>Further information concerning the certification of RES installations can be found on following website: <a href="https://www.austrian-standards.at/en/products-services/certification/product-certification/">https://www.austrian-standards.at/en/products-services/certification/product-certification/</a></p>	
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Industry</b>	
	<b>System Producers</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Others</b>	





## Exemplary role of public authorities

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Article 15a B-VG Agreement</li> <li>EEffG</li> </ul>
Description	<p>The exemplary role of public authorities in accordance with Art. 13 Abs, 5 RES Directive is based on Art. 15a of the Austrian Federal Constitutional Law (B-VG). Pursuant to this article, the Article 15a B-VG Agreement was concluded between the Austrian federation and the federal states, which defines the measures for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the building sector. The contracting parties agreed that they shall exert an exemplary role in terms of a preferably energy-efficient management of the buildings used by them, including the “widest possible use of renewable energy sources”. (art. 1 par. 1 Article 15a B-VG Agreement)</p> <p>Furthermore, minimum heating requirements for the construction and remediation of publicly-used buildings have been defined in the agreement. However, these only take into account energy-efficiency criteria. The use of renewable energy sources is subject to the legislation of the federal states.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Act on Energy Efficiency (EEffG) obliges to energetic refurbishments up to a share of 3% of all public buildings owned by the federal government until 2020. The regulation is also obligatory for the quasi-governmental Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft, which manages publicly owned real estate in Austria (§16 par. 1 EEffG). The act clearly sets an exemplary role for the state (§12 par. 1 EEffG). The act should also contribute indirectly to the increase of the proportion of RES and the decrease of GHG-emissions (§2 par. 6 c). Moreover, the act sets an obligation to newly erected buildings owned by the federal government to fulfil the criteria of nearly zero-energy buildings by 31 December 2018 (Niedrigstenergiegebäuden) (§16 par. 10 EEffG). Nearly zero-energy buildings are defined as buildings with very low or zero energy consumption or a very high energy efficiency. The criteria might be fulfilled due to the deployment of RES (§5 par. 1 sub-par. 16).</p>



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<b>Addressees</b>	Public authorities on federal and regional level
<b>Competent authority</b>	The implementation lies in the competence of the respective federal or local authorities
<b>Further information</b>	



## RES-H building obligations

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Article 15a B-VG Agreement</li> <li>UFG</li> </ul>
Description	<p>The implementation of building related measures mainly lies in local competence. However, the conclusion of the Article 15a B-VG Agreement between the Austrian federal and state governments introduced an essential step to the harmonisation and reinforcement of RE measures in the building sector. The federal state governments have for the most part already implemented the obligations according to Article 15a B-VG Agreement in their respective housing support laws.</p> <p>While RE measures are promoted in industrial and commercial buildings mainly at federal level through the Umweltförderungsgesetz (UFG – Environmental Aid Act), the development of the legislation and RE measures for residential buildings falls largely within the sphere of competence of the federal states.</p> <p>The support of RE measures in the building sector is provided as part of the 'Environmental Assistance in Austria' (UFI) field of action (§ 24 par. 1 UFG). The promotion under UFI is directed primarily towards Austrian companies and is in the form of financial support for investments. The amount of support is set according to the applied technology and shall not exceed 50 % of environment related investment costs. (§ 27 UFG) The applications are to be assessed by a commission on matters of environmental assistance in Austria. (§ 28 UFG)</p> <p>Since the implementation of measures in the residential building sector lies in local competence, the conditions of eligibility and the amount of support in the respective federal states are regulated differently. The promotion of measures takes place exclusively in the form of financial support for investments (most of them one-off, outright investment subsidies).</p>
Obligated entities	<p>Industrial and commercial buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>companies, businesses</li> <li>contracting companies</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• non-profit associations</li> <li>• charitable associations</li> <li>• local public authorities, where there are market-oriented practices</li> <li>• energy supply companies</li> </ul> <p>Residential buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mostly natural persons, house owners, tenants, owners of dwellings, authorised builders</li> <li>• In some cases local authorities, legal persons or non-profit associations for residential homes and employee housing</li> </ul>
<b>Competent authority</b>	<p>Industrial and commercial buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Settlement agency: Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH (KPC)</li> </ul> <p>Residential buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The support of RE measures lies in the competence of the respective local authorities</li> </ul>
<b>Further information</b>	
<b>Obligation on regional level</b>	Yes



Support of RES-H infrastructure

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WKLG</li> <li>• WKLG—Guidelines 2011</li> </ul>
Description	<p>The support of RES-H infrastructure in Austria is mainly based on the Heating and Cooling Network Expansion Act (WKLG), which provides a framework for increasing the district heating (and cooling) infrastructure in the country. According to this act, there are investment incentives for the integration of renewable energy sources in order to reinforce the small-scale regional heat supply in rural areas as well as the expansion of district heating in urban centres. (§ 1 par. 1 no 6 and 7 WKLG). In addition, the guidelines of 2011 on the WKLG elaborate the conditions for support, whereas the promotion of RES is set as a goal. However, the guidelines do not define a concrete share of RES for district heating or cooling in order to fulfil efficiency criteria.</p> <p>Support may be granted if the following criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implementation of the investment was initiated after 1 January 2008 (§ 2 par. 1 WKLG)</li> <li>• The financial feasibility of the district heating project is secured (§ 4 par. 1 WKLG)</li> <li>• The project will supply district heating or cooling for at least one final consumer (§ 4 par. 2 no. 1 WKLG)</li> <li>• The heat generation plants meet the criteria for energy-efficient district heating plants or use waste heat (§ 4 par. 2 no. 3 WKLG)</li> </ul> <p>Funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The funding comes through a payment in form of a one-time capital grant and is usually carried out after completion of the funded project. (§ 5 par. 1 WKLG)</li> <li>• The promotion shall not exceed 35 % in terms of total investment costs and 50 % of the environment related additional charges. (§ 5 par. 2 WKLG)</li> <li>• The amount of support shall not exceed € 200,000 per megawatt. (§ 6 par. 2 WKLG)</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annually, 60 million euro are provided for funding from federal funds. If the budget is not exhausted within a calendar year, these means shall be applied for funding in the following year (§ 7 WKLG).</li> </ul> <p>Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Application:</b> Complete applications are to be submitted to the BMWfW</li> <li><b>Examination through AWISTA:</b> Integrity control, legal analysis, economic and technical testing, development of funding proposal</li> <li><b>Decision-making:</b> Recommendation by advisory council and decision by BMWfW</li> <li><b>Processing by AWISTA:</b> Final funding agreement, review of final accounts, control of the use of funds, payment of subsidies</li> </ul>
<b>Addressees</b>	
<b>Competent authority</b>	The Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWfW) appointed the company AWISTA GmbH as settlement agency for the execution and disbursement of the grants according to the WKLG.
<b>Further information</b>	<a href="http://www.awista.at/">http://www.awista.at/</a> <a href="http://www.awista.at/awista/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/Leitlinien-zum-WKLG-2011-03-243.pdf">http://www.awista.at/awista/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/Leitlinien-zum-WKLG-2011-03-243.pdf</a>