



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

## National profile: Bulgaria

Client: DG Energy

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### ***Bulgaria summary text***

In Bulgaria, electricity from renewable sources is mainly promoted through a feed-in tariff. Producers of electricity from renewable sources are contractually entitled against the grid operator to the purchase and payment of electricity at a guaranteed price.

The connection of renewable energy plants to the grid is subject to the provisions of the general legislation on energy. Renewable energy is not given priority access.

The use of renewable energy for heating and cooling is promoted through a subsidy from the European Regional Development Fund, several loan schemes and through an exemption for building owners from property tax.

In Bulgaria, 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.

The following policies aim at promoting the development, installation and usage of RES-installations in Bulgaria: There is a professional training programme for RES-installers as well as a building obligation for the use of renewable heating and for the exemplary role of public authorities.



## RES-E support schemes

### Summary of support schemes

<b>Overview</b>	In Bulgaria, electricity from renewable sources is mainly promoted through a feed-in tariff. Producers of electricity from renewable sources are contractually entitled against the grid operator to the purchase and payment of electricity at a guaranteed price. The feed-in tariff may not be received on top of other incentives. Furthermore, the OP Competitiveness also provides subsidies for renewable energy projects
<b>Summary of support system</b>	<p><b>Feed-in tariff.</b> The Energy from Renewable Sources Act (ERSA) is the statutory basis for the feed-in tariff, which is the main element of the Bulgarian support system. The ERSA also establishes an obligation to purchase and dispatch electricity from renewable sources.</p> <p><b>Subsidy.</b> The Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) grants subsidies for investments related to the generation of electricity from renewable sources.</p>
<b>Technologies</b>	In general, all renewable energy generation technologies are eligible for the feed-in tariff and the subsidy.
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ERSA (Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници – Energy from Renewable Sources Act)</li><li>• Energy Act (Закон за енергетиката)</li><li>• VE (Наредба за регулиране на цените на електрическата енергия– Ordinance on the Pricing of Electric Power)</li><li>• Resolution No. C-19 (Решение No Ц-19 на Държавната комисия за енергийно и водно регулиране от 28.06.2013 – Price decision No. C-19 by the Bulgarian regulatory authority of 28 June 2013)</li><li>• Operational programme - 2007-2013 - Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy</li></ul>



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	(Оперативната програма „Развитие на конкурентоспособността на българската икономика 2007-2013 г.“)
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### Basic information on legal sources

<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници	Закон за енергетиката	Наредба за регулиране на цените на електрическата енергия
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Energy from Renewable Sources Act	Energy Act	Ordinance on the Pricing of Electric Power
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	ERSA	Energy Act	VE
<b>Entry into force</b>	03.05.2011	09.12.2003	02.03.2004
<b>Last amended on</b>	02.08.2013	26.07.2013	23.04.2013
<b>Future amendments</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	The act promotes the development and increased use of renewable energy and regulates the introduction of environmentally sound energy technologies and their access to the grid.	The act regulates the connection of plants to the grid, the generation and transmission of electricity and the pricing of these services in Bulgaria. Furthermore, the act stipulates provisions for the regulatory authority for energy.	The ordinance prescribes the methods to be used to regulate the pricing of energy and establishes standard procedures for the calculation of prices and for requests for information on fees.
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This act regulates the access of electricity from renewable sources to the grid and	This act regulates the access of electricity from renewable sources to the grid and	This ordinance authorises regulatory authority DKER to regulate the prices for



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	establishes a price regulation scheme to promote electricity from renewable sources.	contains provisions for the support of electricity from renewable sources.	electricity from renewable sources exported to the grid.
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/167">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/167</a>	<a href="http://lex.bg/laws/ldoc/2135475623">http://lex.bg/laws/ldoc/2135475623</a>	<a href="http://www.lex.bg/bg/laws/ldoc/2135480319">http://www.lex.bg/bg/laws/ldoc/2135480319</a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167</a>		<a href="http://www.dker.bg/files/DOWNLOAD/or_dinance_electro_en.pdf">http://www.dker.bg/files/DOWNLOAD/or_dinance_electro_en.pdf</a>  The English translation does not provide information on the latest amendment of the Act.





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<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	Решение № Ц-19 на Държавната комисия за енергийно и водно регулиране от 28.06.2013	Оперативната програма „Развитие на конкурентоспособността на българската икономика 2007-2013 г.“)	
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Resolution No. C-19 of the national regulatory authority DKER of 28.06.2013	Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy”	
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	Resolution No. C-19	OP Competitiveness	
<b>Entry into force</b>	01.07.2013	01.09.2007	
<b>Last amended on</b>			
<b>Future amendments</b>	Every year in late June, the regulatory authority for energy adopts a resolution on the electricity prices.		
<b>Purpose</b>	The price decision sets the prices for electricity from renewable sources.	This document establishes a framework to implement the Operational Programme Competitiveness	
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	The resolution promotes, among other things, renewable energy.	The Operational Programme Competitiveness subsidises, among other things, renewable energy projects.	



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Link to full text of legal source (original language)	<a href="http://dker.bg/files/DOWNLOAD/res-c-19-28062013.pdf">http://dker.bg/files/DOWNLOAD/res-c-19-28062013.pdf</a>	<a href="http://www.opcompetitiveness.bg/images/module3/73_20opcompetitiveness_bg_september2007.pdf">http://www.opcompetitiveness.bg/images/module3/73_20opcompetitiveness_bg_september2007.pdf</a>	
Link to full text of legal source (English)		<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/285">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/285</a>	

Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Министерство на икономиката, енергетиката и туризма на Републиката България – Bulgarian Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism=	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/bg">http://www.mi.government.bg/bg</a>		+359 2 940 7001	<a href="mailto:docs@mee.government.bg">e-docs@mee.government.bg</a>
Министерство на земеделието и храните (МЗХ) – Ministry of Agriculture and Food	<a href="http://www.mzh.government.bg/mzh/bg/Home.aspx">http://www.mzh.government.bg/mzh/bg/Home.aspx</a>		+ 359 298 511 858	<a href="mailto:press@mzh.government.bg">press@mzh.government.bg</a>
Държавна комисия за енергийно и водно регулиране (ДКЕР) – State Energy and Water Regulatory Commission	<a href="http://www.dker.bg/index.php">http://www.dker.bg/index.php</a>		+359 293 596 28	<a href="mailto:dker@dker.bg">dker@dker.bg</a>
Агенция за устойчиво енергийно развитие (АУЕР) – Sustainable Energy Development Agency (SEDA)	<a href="http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg">http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg</a>		+ 359 291 540 10	<a href="mailto:office@seea.government.bg">office@seea.government.bg</a>



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Германо-Българска индустриално-търговска камара (ГБИТК) - German- Bulgarian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (АНК)	<a href="http://bulgarien.ahk.de/bg/uslugi/energija/">http://bulgarien.ahk.de/bg/uslugi/energija/</a>		+359 2 81630 21	
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## Support schemes

### Subsidy (OP Competitiveness)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OP Competitiveness</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Summary</b></p>	<p>The Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” (OP Competitiveness) is financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), which also provides support for renewable energy projects. According to the Bulgarian NREAP, around € 66.5 million have been earmarked for renewable energy projects for the programming period 2007-2013.</p> <p>Under Priority Axis 2.1 (Improvement of technologies and management in enterprises), subsidies are granted through application for investments related to the generation of electricity from renewable sources.</p> <p>The scheme provides co-financing to eligible costs for preparation and implementation of feasibility studies, preparation of procurement documentation; investments in refurbishment, supply, delivery, installation and maintenance of production technologies and equipment for RES technologies.</p>	
<p><b>Eligible technologies</b></p>	<p><b>General information</b></p>	<p>All RES technologies are eligible.</p> <p>Renewable energy installations connected to the grid do not receive financial assistance from the ERDF as these are stimulated by the feed-in tariff system.</p>
	<p><b>Wind energy</b></p>	<p>Eligible.</p>
	<p><b>Solar energy</b></p>	<p>Eligible.</p>
	<p><b>Geothermal energy</b></p>	<p>Eligible.</p>



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	<b>Biogas</b>	Eligible.
	<b>Hydro-power</b>	Eligible.
	<b>Biomass</b>	Eligible.
<b>Amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>For public organisations:</b> 100 % of eligible expenses, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>For micro-enterprises:</b> 70 % of eligible expenses, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>For medium-sized enterprises:</b> 60 % of eligible costs, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>For large enterprises:</b> 50 % of eligible costs, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>Programme for economic development in village areas:</b> Grants for investments for private businesses in villages. Up to 80 % of the eligible costs; project costs must not exceed BGN 1 million (EUR 500,000).</li> </ul>	
<b>Addressees</b>	SMEs and large enterprises in the production and service sectors that are registered according to the Bulgarian commercial code or corporate law	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	The applications under the OP Competitiveness are assessed by a Monitoring Committee. The chairman of this Monitoring Committee is the deputy-minister of the Ministry of Economy and Energy under whose responsibilities is the Managing Authority.



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	<b>Competent authority</b>	European Funds for Competitiveness Directorate within the Bulgarian Ministry of Economy and Energy
<b>Flexibility mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	The Operational Programme is financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	



## Feed-in tariff

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ERSA</li><li>• Energy Act</li><li>• VE</li><li>• Resolution No. C-19</li><li>•</li></ul>	
Summary	<p>In Bulgaria, renewable energy generation is supported mainly through a feed-in tariff. The feed-in tariff applies to producers of electricity from renewable sources who export their electricity to the public grid. Plant operators are contractually entitled against the grid operator to the purchase and transmission of all electricity from renewable sources supplied (§ 18 par. 1 item 2 ERSA). The amount of tariff is determined annually by the State Energy and Water Commission (regulatory authority) (art. 32 par. 1 ERSA).</p> <p>On 18 June 2013, the Supreme Administrative Court of Bulgaria overruled the retroactive grid access fee for photovoltaic power plants built in 2010-2012. The court concluded that the fee was introduced in violation of the Energy Act and ordered the distribution and transmission grid operators to reimburse a total of BGN 150 million (approx. € 76 m) that had been collected through these fees.</p>	
Eligible technologies	General information	All renewable energy generation technologies are eligible (art. 18 par. 1 item 6 ERSA in conjunction with § 1 Complementary Provisions ERSA).
	Wind energy	Eligible.
	Solar energy	Eligible.
	Geothermal energy	Eligible.





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	<b>Biogas</b>	Eligible.
	<b>Hydro-power</b>	Only plants with a capacity of 10 MW or less are eligible (art. 18 par. 1 item 6 ERSA).
	<b>Biomass</b>	Eligible.
<b>Amount</b>	<b>General information</b>	The payment specified by the ERSA is a guaranteed payment in terms of minimum payment rates (art. 18 par. 1 item 6 ERSA). The tariffs are set by the regulatory authority every year on 30 June (art. 32 par. 1 ERSA). For detailed information on the tariffs please see Resolution No. C-19
	<b>Wind energy</b>	<p>Wind power plants with an installed capacity of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• up to 30 kW: BGN 175.86 per MWh (about €ct 9 per kWh)</li> <li>• up to 200 kW: BGN 162.33 per MWh (about €ct 8.3 per kWh)</li> <li>• up to 1 MW: BGN 151.39 per MWh (about €ct 7.7 per kWh)</li> <li>• more than 1 MW: BGN 122.5 per MWh (about €ct 6.3 per kWh)</li> </ul>
	<b>Solar energy</b>	<p><b>Roof-top and facade-integrated installations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• up to 5 kWp: BGN 353.97 per MWh (about € 18 per kWh)</li> <li>• up to 30 kWp: BGN 284.18 per MWh (about €ct 14.5 per kWh)</li> <li>• 30 - 200 kWp: BGN 211.4 per MWh (about €ct 10.8 per kWh)</li> <li>• 200 - 1,000 kWp: BGN 196.58 per MWh (about €ct 10 per kWh)</li> </ul> <p><b>Other installations and plants:</b></p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• up to 30 kWp: BGN 196.58 per MWh (about €ct 10 per kWh)</li> <li>• 30 - 200 kWp: BGN 191.13 per MWh (about €ct 9.7 per kWh)</li> <li>• 200 - 10.000 kWp: BGN 176.29 per MWh (about €ct 9 per kWh)</li> <li>• more than 10,000 kWp: BGN 160.2 per MWh (about €ct 8.2 per kWh)</li> </ul>
	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	
	<b>Biogas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biogas from plant and animal waste, depending on the plant capacity: BGN 387 – 453 per MWh (about €ct 19.8–23.2 per kWh)</li> <li>• Biogas from household waste, depending on the plant capacity: BGN 206 - 225 per MWh (about €ct 10.5–11.5 per kWh)</li> <li>• Biogas from household wastewater, depending on the plant capacity: BGN 89 - 126 per MWh (about €ct 4.6–6.4 per kWh)</li> </ul>
	<b>Hydro-power</b>	Depending on the type of fuel and the size of the plant: BGN 98 - 242 per MWh (about €ct 5–12.3 per kWh)
	<b>Biomass</b>	<p>Depending on the type of fuel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wood waste: BGN 222 - 250 per MWh (about €ct 11.4–12.8 per kWh)</li> <li>• Agricultural waste: BGN 176.96 per MWh (about €ct 9.1 per kWh)</li> <li>• Energy crops: BGN 164.48 per MWh (about €ct 8.4 per kWh)</li> </ul>



<b>Degression</b>	<b>General information</b>	<p>The tariffs are revised and set by the regulatory authority for energy every year on 30 June. The rule that the feed-in tariffs may not be reduced by more than 5 % per year was abolished on 3 May 2011 by the new regulation of ERSA. For this reason, tariff degression is not regulated by law and the tariff rates can be drastically reduced every year.</p> <p>In pursuance of the amendment, the feed-in tariff may not be changed during the entire term of a subsidy agreement. The feed-in tariff applicable is the one in force on the date on which the plant was put into operation.</p>
	<b>Wind energy</b>	
	<b>Solar energy</b>	
	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	
	<b>Biogas</b>	
	<b>Hydro-power</b>	
	<b>Biomass</b>	
<b>Cap</b>		
<b>Eligibility period</b>	<p>The period of the obligation to purchase and dispatch electricity depends on the subsidy agreement between the plant operator and the grid operator. The term of such an agreement is 20 years for plants using geothermal energy, biomass and solar energy, 15 years for plants using biogas and hydro power and 12 years for wind power plants (art. 31 par. 2 ERSA).</p>	



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<b>Addressees</b>	<b>Entitled party:</b> The persons entitled are the plant operators (§ 18 par. 1 item 1 ERSA).	
	<b>Obligated party:</b> The persons obliged to pay for electricity exported to the grid are the grid operators (art. 18 par. 1 item 1 ERSA).	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	Distribution grid operators are statutorily obligated to conclude purchase agreements with the operators of renewable energy plants (obligation to conclude a contract). In pursuance of the agreement concluded, the plant operator is contractually entitled to payment for his electricity (art. 18 par. 1 item 1, § 7 par. 1 Transitional and Final Provisions ERSA).
	<b>Competent authority</b>	The regulatory authority (DKER)
<b>Flexibility Mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	The costs arising from the feed-in tariff scheme are borne by the consumers through the electricity price (art. 31 item 7 Energy Act).
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	Grid operators have the right to request compensation for the costs resulting from the purchase of electricity from renewable sources



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		(art. 35 par. 1 Energy Act). The regulatory authority (DKER) is responsible for determining the recoverable amount (art. 35 par. 4 Energy Act). The costs resulting from the purchase of electricity from renewable sources are added to the electricity price and thus passed on to the final consumers (art. 31 item 7, art. 35 par. 6 Energy Act).
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## RES-E grid issues

### Overview

<b>Overview of grid issues</b>	In Bulgaria, the connection of renewable energy systems to the grid is subject to the provisions of the general legislation on energy. Renewable energy is not given priority access. Plant operators are contractually entitled to have their electricity dispatched by the grid operator. Grid operators are obliged to upgrade and expand their grids if the upgrade or expansion is required to connect a plant.
<b>Connection to the grid</b>	Plant operators are contractually entitled against the grid operator to the connection of a renewable energy plant to the grid (art. 116 par. 1 Energy Act). The right to priority connection was abolished by the latest amendment to the ERSA.
<b>Use of the grid</b>	Plant operators are contractually entitled against the grid operator to the purchase of their electricity (art. 18 par. 1 ERSA).
<b>Grid expansion</b>	Plant operators are statutorily entitled against the grid operator to the expansion and development of the grid to enable the connection of a renewable energy plant to the grid (art. 116 par. 1, 3 Energy Act).
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ERSA (Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници – Energy from Renewable Sources Act)</li><li>• Energy Act (Закон за енергетиката)</li></ul>



### Basic information on legal sources

<b>Name of legal source</b> (original language)	Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници	Закон за енергетиката	
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Energy from Renewable Sources Act	Energy Act	
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	ERSA	Energy Act	
<b>Entry into force</b>	03.05.2011	09.12.2003	
<b>Last amended on</b>	02.08.2013	26.07.2013	
<b>Future amendments</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	The act promotes the development and increased use of renewable energy and regulates the introduction of environmentally sound energy technologies and their access to the grid.	The act regulates the connection of plants to the grid, the generation and transmission of electricity and the pricing of these services in Bulgaria. Furthermore, the act stipulates provisions for the regulatory authority for energy.	
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This act regulates the access of electricity from renewable sources to the grid and establishes a price regulation scheme to promote electricity	This act regulates the access of electricity from renewable sources to the grid and contains provisions for the support of electricity from	



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	from renewable sources.	renewable sources.	
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/167">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/167</a>	<a href="http://lex.bg/laws/ldoc/2135475623">http://lex.bg/laws/ldoc/2135475623</a>	
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167</a>		



Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Министерство на икономиката, енергетиката и туризма на Републиката България – Bulgarian Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/bg">http://www.mi.government.bg/bg</a>		+359 2 940 7001	<a href="mailto:docs@mee.government.bg">e-docs@mee.government.bg</a>
Държавна комисия за енергийно и водно регулиране (ДКЕР) – State Commission for Energy and Water Regulation (SCEWR)	<a href="http://www.dker.bg/index.php">http://www.dker.bg/index.php</a>		+359 293 596 28	<a href="mailto:dker@dker.bg">dker@dker.bg</a>
Германо-Българска индустриално-търговска камара (ГБИТК) - German-Bulgarian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (АНК)	<a href="http://bulgarien.ahk.de/dienstleistungen/energie/">http://bulgarien.ahk.de/dienstleistungen/energie/</a>		+359 2 81630 21	



## Grid issues

### Connection to the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERSA</li> <li>• Energy Act</li> </ul>	
Overview	<p>Plant operators are contractually entitled against the grid operator to the connection of a renewable energy plant to the grid (art. 116 par. 1 Energy Act). The right to priority connection was abolished by the new ERSA in May 2011.</p> <p><b>Entitled party:</b> The persons entitled are the plant operators (§ 116 par. 1 Energy Act).</p> <p><b>Obligated party:</b> The obligated company is the grid operator located in the closest proximity to the renewable energy plant (art. 116 par. 1 Energy Act)</p>	
Procedure	Process flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Connection requirements.</b> Plants must be situated on the premises of the plant operator and comply with the technical and safety requirements and the conditions specified in the connection agreement (art. 116 par. 1 Energy Act).</li> <li>• <b>Application.</b> The plant operator shall apply to the grid operator for connection (art. 23 par. 1 ERSA). Having submitted the application for connection, the applicant shall provide a guarantee of BGN 5,000 (approx. EUR 2,500) per MW of the planned capacity to the plant operator as an advance payment for the connection costs (art. 23 par. 8 ERSA). This regulation does not apply to renewable energy projects with an installed capacity up to 30 kW connected to the distribution grid, resp. up to 200 kW connected to the transmission grid as well as biomass and hydropower plants with an installed capacity up to 1.5 MW (art. 24 ERSA).</li> <li>• <b>Preliminary agreement.</b> If the plant operator meets all connection requirements, a preliminary agreement shall be concluded (art. 29 par. 1 ERSA). When entering into a preliminary agreement, the plant operator shall make another advance payment of either BGN 25,000 (approx. EUR 12,500) per MW if the capacity of his plant does not exceed 5 MW or BGN 50,000 (approx. EUR</li> </ul>



		<p>25,000) per MW if the capacity does exceed 5 MW (art. 29 par. 1 ERSA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Agreement.</b> After project completion, the plant operator shall enter into a connection agreement with either the transmission or the distribution grid operator. The connection agreement shall specify the price for connection (art. 116 par. 1 Energy Act).</li> <li>• <b>Monitoring.</b> The regulatory authority shall ensure compliance with the obligation to give priority to the connection of renewable energy plants and with the contractual terms (art. 76 par. 4 Energy Act). The grid operator is obliged to pay a penalty charge in the amount of BGN 20,000 to BGN 30,000 (approx. EUR 10,000–15,000) if he does not give priority to the connection of a plant without due reason (art. 60 ERSA).</li> </ul>
	<b>Deadlines</b>	<p>The grid operator shall process applications for conclusion of a preliminary agreement within 14 days (art. 23 par. 3 ERSA). The preliminary agreement will cease to have effect after one year (art. 29 par. 5 ERSA).</p> <p>The plant operator shall apply for the conclusion of a connection agreement prior to the expiry of the preliminary agreement. Preliminary agreements concluded prior to 3 May 2011 will have effect until 3 May 2012 at maximum. Connection agreements shall take effect from the date on which the plant is put into operation at the latest and shall be effective for three years at maximum (art. 29 par. 6 ERSA).</p>
	<b>Obligation to inform</b>	<p>The grid operator is obliged to inform the plant operator on the expected level of power consumption, transmission grid limitations, balancing electricity prices in prior periods and other details as required (art. 111 par. 1 item 8 Energy Act).</p>
<b>Priority to renewable energy</b>  <b>(qualitative criteria)</b>	<p>( ) Priority to renewable energy</p> <p>( x ) Non-discrimination</p>	<p>The right to priority connection was abolished by the latest amendment to the ERSA. Now, plant operators are only entitled to non-discriminatory access.</p>



## RES-LEGAL EUROPE – National Profile Bulgaria



<p><b>Capacity limits</b> <b>(quantitative criteria)</b></p>	<p>The grid operator is not obliged to connect a renewable energy plant if he can prove that grid capacity is insufficient or that the security of supply is at risk (art. 119 par. 3 and 4 Energy Act).</p> <p>From 1 July 2012, the grid operators will be obliged to grant access only if the annual grid capacity limits have not yet been reached. These capacity limits will be set by the regulatory authority in pursuance of the NREAP between 1 January and 30 June and will come into effect every year on 1 July (art. 22 par. 5 ERSA).</p> <p>The capacity limits will not apply to roof-top and facade-integrated plants with a capacity of up to 30 kW, to plants of up to 200 kW on roofs and facades of factories and storage buildings, and to plants the feed-in tariff was not applied for (art. 24 ERSA).</p>	
<p><b>Distribution of costs</b></p>		
	<p><b>State</b></p>	
	<p><b>Consumers</b></p>	
	<p><b>Grid operator</b></p>	<p>The costs of establishing a connection between the property of the plant operator and the connection point shall be borne by the grid operator or the utility company involved (art. 27 par. 2 ERSA).</p>
	<p><b>Plant operator</b></p>	<p>Plant operators shall bear the connection costs arising within their property boundaries (art. 27 par. 1 ERSA).</p>
	<p><b>European Union</b></p>	
	<p><b>Distribution mechanism</b></p>	



## Use of the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERSA</li> <li>• Energy Act</li> </ul>	
Overview	<p>Renewable energy plant operators are contractually entitled against the grid operator to the purchase electricity (art. 30 par. 1 ERSA)</p> <p><b>Entitled party:</b> The persons entitled are the electricity producers (art. 30 par. 1 ERSA)</p> <p><b>Obligated party:</b> The person obligated is the grid operator (art. 30 par. 1 ERSA)</p>	
Procedure	Process flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Access requirements.</b> The grid operator may deny access to the grid if the connection of a plant might have a negative impact on the technical parameters of the grid, grid stability or the supply of electricity to other customers and consumers (art. 118 par. 2 Energy Act).</li> <li>• <b>Certificate.</b> The plant operator receives certificates of origin for electricity generated from renewable sources from the national regulatory authority (§ 9 par. 1 Transitional and Final provisions of ERSA).</li> <li>• <b>Agreement.</b> Electricity suppliers are obliged to purchase all electricity from renewable sources at the preferential price set by the SCEWR (art. 31 par. 1 ERSA). The obligation to purchase electricity is based on long-term purchase agreements, which have a duration of 20 years (hydro-electricity: 15 years, wind power: 12 years) (art. 31 par. 2 ERSA).</li> <li>• <b>Penalty charges.</b> Grid operators who fail to meet their obligations are obliged to pay charges of BGN 7,000-20,000 (approx. EUR 3,500-10,000) (art. 63 par. 1 ERSA).</li> </ul>
	Deadlines	Deadlines for grid access are not defined by law. They may, however, be specified in the individual agreements between the grid operator and the plant operators.
	Obligation to inform	



## RES-LEGAL EUROPE – National Profile Bulgaria



<b>Priority to renewable energy</b>  <b>(qualitative criteria)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority to renewable energy  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-discrimination	The grid operator is obliged to ensure access to the grid without discriminating against certain grid users and in compliance with quality requirements (art. 113 par. 1 no. 3, 4 Energy Act). Electricity from renewable sources is not given priority.
<b>Curtailment</b>	The transmission system operator may refuse to purchase and transmit electricity from renewable energy in the following cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grid capacity. The transmission capacity is insufficient (art. 119 par. 3 no. 1 Energy Act).</li> <li>• Grid security. The principle of non-discrimination need not be applied where the reliable operation of the grid and the security of supply are compromised (art. 119 par. 5, art. 118 par. 2 Energy Act).</li> </ul> Concerning the distribution grid, according to the distribution system operator EVN Bulgaria, the DSO has no technical or legal possibility to control the electricity which is fed into the grid.	
<b>Distribution of costs</b>		
	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	The costs of the purchase of electricity are transferred to the consumers through the electricity price.
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	The grid operators have the right to request compensation for the costs resulting from the purchase of electricity from renewable sources (art. 35 par. 1 Energy Act). Regulatory authority DKER is responsible for determining the recoverable amount (art. 35 par. 4 Energy Act).



### Grid expansion

Abbreviated form of legal source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERSA</li> <li>• Energy Act</li> </ul>	
Overview	<p>A claim by a plant operator against the grid operator for the expansion of the grid may arise only if the reinforcement is required to connect a renewable energy plant and if both parties have already signed a connection agreement (art. 116 par.1, 3 Energy Act).</p> <p><b>Entitled party:</b> The persons entitled to the expansion of the grid are the plant operators (art. 116 par. 1, 3 Energy Act).</p> <p><b>Obligated party:</b> The grid operator whose grid is most closely located is obliged to expand his grid (116 par. 1, 3 Energy Act in conjunction with art. 27 par. 2 ERSA).</p>	
Procedure	Process flow	The grid operator's general obligation to expand the grid is based on statutory law. Individual claims may arise in the course of the grid connection process. The regulatory authority DKER ensures the grid operators' compliance with the obligations arising from the connection agreements (art. 21 par. 1 item 4, 5 Energy Act).
	Enforcement of claims	
	Deadlines	Deadlines for the reinforcement of the grid are specified in the connection agreements.
	Obligation to inform	
Regulatory incentives for grid expansion and innovation		
Distribution of costs		
	State	



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	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	The costs of the expansion of the grid are borne by the owner of the respective grid (art. 27 par. 2 ERSA).
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	
<b>Grid studies</b>	<p>The Bulgarian TSO has drawn up a 10-Year-Net-Development-Plan for the transmission grid: <a href="http://tso.bg/uploads/file/bg/10 Year Net Dev Plan BG 2010-2020.pdf">http://tso.bg/uploads/file/bg/10 Year Net Dev Plan BG 2010-2020.pdf</a></p> <p>According to the distribution system operator EVN Bulgaria, there are no official grid development studies on the level of the distribution grid.</p>	





## RES-H&C support schemes

### Summary of support schemes

Overview	In Bulgaria, the use of renewable energy for heating and cooling is promoted through a subsidy from the European Regional Development Fund, a grant from the Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund and through an exemption for building owners from property tax.
Summary of support schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Subsidy:</b> The Operational Programme Competitiveness, financed by the ERDF, grants subsidies through application for investments related to the generation of heat from renewable sources.</li><li>• <b>Loan:</b> The Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund offers financing grants for projects aiming at improving the energy efficiency of public, industrial and residential buildings.</li><li>• <b>Tax regulation mechanism:</b> The use of renewable energy technologies in buildings is promoted through a system of tax incentives for building owners.</li></ul>
Technologies	In general, all technologies are eligible for support.
Statutory provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EEA (Закон за енергийната ефективност – Energy Efficiency Act)</li><li>• Local Tax Act (Закон за местните данъци и такси – Local Tax and Fees Act)</li><li>• Ordinance No. RD-16-1057 (Наредба № рд-16-1057 от 10 декември 2009 г. за условията и реда за извършване на обследване за енергийна ефективност и сертифициране на сгради, издаване на сертификати за енергийни характеристики и категориите сертификати – Ordinance No. RD-16-1057 from 10 December 2009 on energy audits, the certification of buildings, issuing energy performance certificates and certificate categories)</li></ul>



### Basic information on legal sources

<b>Name of legal source</b> (original language)	Закон за енергийната ефективност	Закон за местните данъци и такси	Наредба № рд-16-1057 от 10 декември 2009 г. за условията и реда за извършване на обследване за енергийна ефективност и сертифициране на сгради, издаване на сертификати за енергийни характеристики и категориите сертификати
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Energy Efficiency Act	Local Tax and Fees Act	Ordinance No. RD-16-1057 from 10 December 2009 on energy audits, the certification of buildings, issuing energy performance certificates and certificate categories.
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	EEA	Local Tax Act	Ordinance No. RD-16-1057
<b>Entry into force</b>	14.11.2008	01.01.1998	29.12.2009
<b>Last amended on</b>	05.07.2013	09.06.2013	
<b>Future amendments</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	This act stipulates the general conditions	This act establishes provisions on the levying of local taxes and fees, e.g. the	This ordinance sets out the basic principles for the certification of buildings for energy



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	for energy efficiency in Bulgaria.	property tax.	efficiency.
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	The introduced energy efficiency measures include renewable energy technologies.	Buildings using renewable energy technologies are exempt from the property tax.	The introduced energy efficiency measures include renewable energy technologies.
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="http://www.seea.government.bg/documents/ZEE.doc">http://www.seea.government.bg/documents/ZEE.doc</a>	<a href="http://lex.bg/laws/ldoc/2134174720">http://lex.bg/laws/ldoc/2134174720</a>	<a href="http://www.seea.government.bg/documents/Naredba-RD-16-1057.pdf">http://www.seea.government.bg/documents/Naredba-RD-16-1057.pdf</a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>	<a href="http://www.investbulgaria.com/BulgarianEnergyEfficiencyAct.php">http://www.investbulgaria.com/BulgarianEnergyEfficiencyAct.php</a>  Please note: The English translation does not provide information on the latest amendment of the Act.		



### Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Министерство на икономиката, енергетиката и туризма на Републиката България – Bulgarian Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/bg">http://www.mi.government.bg/bg</a>		+359 2 940 7001	<a href="mailto:docs@mee.government.bg">e-docs@mee.government.bg</a>
Агенция за устойчиво енергийно развитие (АУЕР) - Sustainable Energy Development Agency (SEDA)	<a href="http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg">http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg</a>		+359 2 915 40 10	<a href="mailto:office@seea.government.bg">office@seea.government.bg</a>
Фонд “Енергийна ефективност” – Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund (BGEEF)	<a href="http://www.bgeef.com/displaybg.aspx">http://www.bgeef.com/displaybg.aspx</a>		+359 2 81 000 80	<a href="mailto:info@bgeef.com">info@bgeef.com</a>
Германо-Българска индустриално-търговска камара (ГБИТК) - German-Bulgarian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (АНК)	<a href="http://bulgarien.ahk.de/bg/uslugi/energija/">http://bulgarien.ahk.de/bg/uslugi/energija/</a>		+359 2 81630 21	



## Support schemes

### Subsidy (OP Competitiveness)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OP Competitiveness</li> </ul>	
Summary	<p>The Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” (OP Competitiveness) is financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), which also provides support for renewable energy projects. According to the Bulgarian NREAP, around € 66.5 million have been earmarked for renewable energy projects for the programming period 2007-2013.</p> <p>Under Priority Axis 2.1 (Improvement of technologies and management in enterprises), subsidies are granted through application for investments related to the generation of heat from renewable sources.</p> <p>The scheme provides co-financing to eligible costs for preparation and implementation of feasibility studies, preparation of procurement documentation; investments in refurbishment, supply, delivery, installation and maintenance of production technologies and equipment for RES technologies.</p>	
Eligible technologies	General information	In general, all RES technologies are eligible.
	Aerothermal	Eligible.
	Hydrothermal	Eligible.
	Biogas	Eligible.
	Biomass	Eligible.
	Geothermal energy	Eligible.



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	<b>Solar Thermal</b>	Eligible.
<b>Amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>For public organisations:</b> 100 % of eligible expenses, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>For micro-enterprises:</b> 70 % of eligible expenses, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>For medium-sized enterprises:</b> 60 % of eligible costs, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>For large enterprises:</b> 50 % of eligible costs, minimum grant: BGN 50,000 (EUR 25,000); maximum grant: BGN 2 million (EUR 1 million)</li> <li>• <b>Programme for economic development in village areas:</b> Grants for investments for private businesses in villages. Up to 80 % of the eligible costs; project costs must not exceed BGN 1 million (EUR 500,000).</li> </ul>	
<b>Addressees</b>	SMEs and large enterprises in the production and service sectors that are registered according to the Bulgarian commercial code or corporate law	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	The applications under the OP Competitiveness are assessed by a Monitoring Committee. The chairman of this Monitoring Committee is the deputy-minister of the Ministry of Economy and Energy under whose responsibilities is the Managing Authority.
	<b>Competent authority</b>	European Funds for Competitiveness Directorate within the Bulgarian Ministry of Economy and Energy
<b>Flexibility mechanism</b>		



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Distribution of costs	State	
	Consumers	
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	The Operational Programme is financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
	Distribution mechanism	



## Loan (Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund – BGEEF)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EEA</li> </ul>		
Summary	<p>The Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund (BGEEF) has been established by the Energy Efficiency Act and offers financing grants for projects aiming at improving the energy efficiency and supporting the use of renewable energy in public, industrial and residential buildings.</p> <p><b>Project Eligibility Criteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project must apply a well proven energy saving technology</li> <li>• At least 50 % of a project's benefits must come from energy savings</li> <li>• Investment payback period – up to 5 years</li> <li>• Investment range: BGN 30,000 – 3,000,000 (EUR 15,000 – 1,500,000)</li> <li>• Project developer's equity contribution – at least:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 10 % in case of co-financing (BGEEF &amp; commercial bank)</li> <li>○ 25 % in case of financing solely from BGEEF</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Credit maturity period: up to 5 years</li> </ul>		
Eligible technologies	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="707 906 1279 1323">General information</td><td data-bbox="1279 906 2065 1323"> <p><b>Types of eligible projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refurbishment of buildings</li> <li>• Fuel replacement</li> <li>• Thermal insulation</li> <li>• Reconstruction of heat sources and heat distribution networks</li> <li>• Reconstruction of heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and lighting systems</li> <li>• Small cogeneration plants</li> </ul> </td></tr> </table>	General information	<p><b>Types of eligible projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refurbishment of buildings</li> <li>• Fuel replacement</li> <li>• Thermal insulation</li> <li>• Reconstruction of heat sources and heat distribution networks</li> <li>• Reconstruction of heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and lighting systems</li> <li>• Small cogeneration plants</li> </ul>
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	Aerothermal		Eligible.		
	Hydrothermal		Eligible.		
	Biogas		Eligible.		
	Biomass		Eligible.		
	Geothermal energy		Eligible.		
	Solar Thermal		Eligible.		
Amount	Beneficiary		Interest %	Maturity	Equity contribution
	Municipalities		6 % - 9 % p.a.	up to 5 years	10 % - 25 %
	Corporate clients and private persons		7 % - 10 % p.a.	up to 5 years	10 % - 25 %
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Partial Credit Guarantees</b> (PCGs) – up to 80 % (but no more than BGN 800,000 – EUR 400,000) of the approved bank credit.</li><li>• <b>Portfolio Guarantees</b> – up to 5 % of the portfolio (but no more than BGN 800,000 – EUR 400,000).</li><li>• <b>Guarantee Fees:</b> 0.5 % to 2 % on an annual basis. Exceptions possible.</li></ul>				
Addressees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Municipalities</b> – 49% of BEEF total portfolio volume.</li><li>• <b>SMEs</b> – 30% of BEEF total portfolio volume. <b>Universities/Hospitals</b> – 21% of BEEF total portfolio volume.</li></ul>				
Procedure	Process flow		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Application</b> for credit</li><li>• <b>Initial assessment</b> of technical and financial viability and preliminary approval</li></ul>		



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assessment</b> of credit risk (project and client) and specification of credit parameters</li> <li>• Project approval by <b>Credit Committee</b></li> <li>• Project approval by <b>Management Board</b></li> <li>• <b>Credit disbursement</b></li> </ul>
	<b>Competent authority</b>	Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund
<b>Flexibility mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Consumers</b>	
	<b>Plant operator</b>	
	<b>Grid operator</b>	
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	The grants within the BGEEF programme are provided by the World Bank, the Government of Austria, the Government of Bulgaria, DZI Bank, the companies Lukoil Bulgaria, Brunata Bulgaria and Enemona, and are being distributed through the Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund.



## Tax regulation mechanism

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Tax Act</li> <li>EEA</li> <li>Ordinance No. RD-16-1057</li> </ul>	
Summary	<p>The use of renewable energy technologies in buildings is promoted through a system of tax incentives for building owners. The incentive scheme provides that a building that has been granted a class A or B energy performance certificate can be exempted from property tax for a longer period of time if renewable energy technologies are used in the building.</p> <p>Buildings using renewable energy technologies with 'A' certificates are exempted from tax for 10 years (art. 24 No.18 b Local Tax Act), and buildings with 'B' certificates for 5 years (art. 24 no. 19 b Local Tax Act). A certifiable building must be fully completed.</p> <p>The certificates for energy efficient buildings are based on an ordinance issued by the Bulgarian Ministry of Energy. According to art. 11 of Ordinance No. RD-16-1057, energy performance certificates contain information about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the type of building, year of commissioning, total area, heated area</li> <li>values of integrated energy performance regarding energy consumption, specific energy consumption for heating, ventilation and hot water for domestic purposes</li> </ul>	
Eligible technologies	General information	For the time being, this incentive scheme does not include requirements regarding the energy efficiency of renewable energy installations and the share of energy from renewable sources.
	Aerothermal	
	Hydrothermal	



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	<b>Biogas</b>	
	<b>Biomass</b>	
	<b>Geothermal energy</b>	
	<b>Solar Thermal</b>	
<b>Amount</b>	The amount of tax relief is equal to the amount of property tax entitled persons are exempt from.	
<b>Addressees</b>		
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	
	<b>Competent authority</b>	
<b>Flexibility Mechanism</b>		
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	The cost of tax exemption is borne by the Bulgarian 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>	



## RES-T support schemes

### Summary of support schemes

Overview	In Bulgaria, 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.
Summary of support schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Biofuels quota:</b> Persons introducing liquid fuels of crude oil origin for transportation shall be obliged to offer market fuels for diesel and petrol engines blended with biofuels.</li><li>• <b>Tax regulation mechanism:</b> A reduced rate of excise duty is applied to unleaded petrol or gas oil if a share of more than 4 % of bioethanol or biodiesel has been added</li></ul>
Technologies	The tax regulation mechanism and the biofuels quota apply to biofuels only
Statutory provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ERSA (Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници – Energy from Renewable Sources Act)</li><li>• ZADS (Закон за акцизите и данъчните складове – Excise Duties and Tax Warehouses Act)</li></ul>



### Basic information on legal sources

<b>Name of legal source (original language)</b>	Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници	Закон за акцизите и данъчните складове	
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Energy from Renewable Sources Act	Excise Duties and Tax Warehouses Act	
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	ERSA	ZADS	
<b>Entry into force</b>	03.05.2011	01.01.2006	
<b>Last amended on</b>	02.08.2013	15.02.2013	
<b>Future amendments</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	The act promotes the development and increased use of renewable energy and regulates the introduction of environmentally sound energy technologies and their access to the grid.	This act regulates excise duty taxation as well as control on production, use, storage, movement and securing of goods subject to excise tax.	
<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	This act regulates the access of electricity from renewable sources to the grid and establishes a price regulation scheme to promote electricity from renewable	This act also regulates the excise duty taxation of fuels from renewable energy sources.	



## RES-LEGAL EUROPE – National Profile Bulgaria



	sources.		
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/167">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/bg/fileId/167</a>	<a href="http://www.lex.bg/laws/ldoc/213551272_g">http://www.lex.bg/laws/ldoc/213551272_g</a>	
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167</a>	<a href="http://www.customs.bg/document/3250">http://www.customs.bg/document/3250</a>  This translation does not include the last amendment of the act.	

Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Министерство на икономиката, енергетиката и туризма на Републиката България – Bulgarian Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/bg">http://www.mi.government.bg/bg</a>		+359 2 940 7001	<a href="mailto:e-docs@mee.government.bg">e-docs@mee.government.bg</a>
Агенция за устойчиво енергийно развитие (АУЕР) - Sustainable Energy Development Agency (SEDA)	<a href="http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg">http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg</a>		+359 2 915 40 10	<a href="mailto:office@seea.government.bg">office@seea.government.bg</a>
Държавната агенция за метрологичен и технически надзор (ДАМТН) – State Agency for Metrological and Technical Surveillance (SAMTS)	<a href="http://www.damtn.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg">http://www.damtn.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg</a>		+359 2 980 89 20	<a href="mailto:damtn@damtn.government.bg">damtn@damtn.government.b g</a>





## Support schemes

### Tax regulation mechanism (Tax Reduction for Biofuels)

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ZADS</li> <li>• ERSА</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary</b>	<p>Following financial incentives are applied to promote the use of biofuels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a reduced rate of excise duty for unleaded petrol when bioethanol with 4 % to 5 % of volume has been added;</li> <li>• a reduced rate of excise duty for gas oil when biodiesel with 4 % to 5 % of volume has been added.</li> </ul>	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	Subject to the tax allowance are only biofuels.
	<b>Biofuels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Biodiesel" is a methyl ester produced from vegetable oils or animal fats with the quality of diesel fuel intended for use as fuel for diesel engines made from biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues from agriculture (including vegetal and animal substances), forestry, and the biodegradable fraction of industrial and household waste (art. 4 no. 22 ZADS).</li> <li>• "Bioethanol" means ethanol produced from biomass and / or the biodegradable fraction of waste, which is intended for use as biofuel (art 4 no. 23 ZADS).</li> </ul>
	<b>Electricity</b>	
	<b>Hydrogen</b>	
<b>Amount</b>	<p>The reduced rate of excise duty, approved by the Commission, is applicable to biofuel blends of 4 % to 5 % inclusive. The reduced rates are valid for 2 years from the date of approval of the scheme notified.</p>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For unleaded petrol used in transport, meeting the sustainability criteria laid down in art. 37 par. 1 and 4 of ERSA as well as the technical and quality requirements of art. 51 par. 2 ERSA, in which the content of bioethanol is 4 percent or more by volume – BGN 688 (EUR 350) for 1,000 litres (art. 32 par. 8 ZADS). Otherwise: BGN 710 (EUR 360) for 1,000 litres – tax reduction of BGN 22 (EUR 11) for 1,000 litres (art. 32 par. 2 ZADS).</li> <li>For gas oil used in transport, meeting the sustainability criteria laid down in art. 37 par. 1 and 4 of ERSA as well as the technical and quality requirements of art. 51 par. 2 ERSA, in which the content of biodiesel is 4 percent or more by volume – BGN 596 (EUR 300) for 1,000 litres (art. 32 par. 9 ZADS). Otherwise: BGN 645 (EUR 330) for 1,000 litres – tax reduction of BGN 49 (EUR 25) for 1,000 litres (art. 32 par. 3 ZADS).</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>	Bulgarian 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>• ERSA</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary</b>	Persons introducing liquid fuels of crude oil origin for transportation shall be obliged to offer market fuels for diesel and petrol engines blended with biofuels.	
<b>Eligible technologies</b>	<b>General information</b>	Subject to the obligation are only biofuels.
	<b>Biofuels</b>	<p>According to § 1 Additional Provisions of ERSA, "biofuels" are liquid or gaseous fuels for transport produced from biomass, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Biodiesel": methyl ester produced from vegetal or animal fat, having diesel fuel grade, intended to be used pure or blended with fuel for diesel engines;</li> <li>• "Bioethanol": ethanol produced from biomass and/or from biodegradable fractions of waste, intended to be used pure or blended with fuel for petrol engines;</li> <li>• "Ethers produced based on bioethanol": <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oxygen containing compounds (ethyl-tertio-butyl-ether, or ETBE), produced based on bioethanol given that the percentage by volume of the bio-ethyl-tertio-butyl-ether, calculated as biofuel is 47.</li> <li>○ "Biodimethylether": dimethylether produced from biomass and intended to be used as biofuel, and "bio-methyl-tertio-butyl-ether": fuel produced based on biomethanol given that the percentage by volume of the bio-methyl-tertio-butyl-ether, computed as biofuel is 36 intended to be used pure or blended with fuel for petrol engines.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	Electricity																									
	Hydrogen																									
Amount	Amount of quota and period of application	<p>Persons introducing liquid fuels of crude oil origin for transportation shall be obliged to offer market fuels for diesel and petrol engines blended with biofuels in the following proportion (art. 47 par. 1 ERSA):</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>1/2013</td><td>9/2013</td><td>3/2014</td><td>9/2014</td><td>3/2015</td><td>9/2015</td><td>3/2016</td></tr><tr><td>Fuel for diesel engines – biodiesel content</td><td>6 %</td><td>6 %</td><td>6 %</td><td>6 %</td><td>6 %</td><td>6 %</td><td>6 %</td></tr><tr><td>Fuel for petrol engines – bioethanol content</td><td>3 %</td><td>4 %</td><td>5 %</td><td>6 %</td><td>7 %</td><td>8 %</td><td>9 %</td></tr></table>		1/2013	9/2013	3/2014	9/2014	3/2015	9/2015	3/2016	Fuel for diesel engines – biodiesel content	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	Fuel for petrol engines – bioethanol content	3 %	4 %	5 %	6 %	7 %	8 %	9 %
		1/2013	9/2013	3/2014	9/2014	3/2015	9/2015	3/2016																		
	Fuel for diesel engines – biodiesel content	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %																		
	Fuel for petrol engines – bioethanol content	3 %	4 %	5 %	6 %	7 %	8 %	9 %																		
Adjustment of quotas	The targets for the period from 2012 to 2016 are prescribed by law and may be amended by law.																									
	Fees and penalty charges	<p>Penalty charges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A person, who launches in the market liquid fuels of crude oil origin in violation of the quota provisions, shall be sanctioned by a financial penalty in the amount of BGN 200,000 – EUR 100,000 (art. 67 par. 1 ERSA).</li></ul> <p>When an infringement of the rule on the sale and distribution of biofuels is found, the head of the State Agency for Metrology and Technical Surveillance (SAMTS) shall apply the following administrative enforcement measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>to temporarily suspend the sale and supply of liquid fuels on the market and to seal the outlets which have not submitted declarations of conformity, or</li></ul>																								



		<p>submitted declarations which do not contain the information required under the law;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to prohibit the sale and supply of liquid fuels on the market and to seal the outlets whose fuel has been found not to conform with the legal requirements after testing at a stationary laboratory and the relevant report issued;</li> <li>to order the withdrawal of fuel from the market when the test results from a control sample found not to comply with the law have not been contested within 7 days of its receipt or, if following an appeal, the test results of an arbitration test and a test report confirm these results.</li> </ul>
<b>Addressees</b>	Persons who make available on the market liquid fuels of crude oil origin for transportation (art. 47 par. 1 ERSA)	
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Process flow</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The persons who make available on the market biofuels and their blends with liquid fuels of crude oil origin in transport, shall draw up for each lot an affidavit for compliance with the Clean Ambient Air Act - Закон за чистотата на атмосферния въздух (art. 48 par. 1 ERSA).</li> <li>Distributors shall be obliged to provide for each subsequent distribution in the market a copy of the affidavit for compliance of the distributed lot of biofuels and their blends with liquid fuels of crude oil origin, on which they indicate the amount of liquid fuel, the person to whom it is provided, the date and number of the shipping document, and to enter the number and date of the affidavit for compliance of the lot of liquid fuel in all other accompanying documents (art. 48 par. 2 ERSA).</li> <li>The ultimate distributors shall be obliged to provide to the officials a certified copy of the affidavit as well as a copy of the shipping document of the inspected fuel (art. 48 par. 3 ERSA).</li> </ul>



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	<b>Competent authority</b>	Control over the quality of biofuels and their blends with liquid fuels of crude oil origin, as well as of bioliquids, shall be exercised by the Chairman of the SAMTS (art. 51 par. 1 ERSA).
<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>	
	<b>Distribution mechanism</b>	



## Policies

### Summary of policies

<b>Overview</b>	The following policies aim at promoting the development, installation and usage of RES-installations in Bulgaria: There is a professional training programme for RES-installers as well as a building obligation for the use of renewable heating and for the exemplary role of public authorities
<b>Summary of policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• According to the latest amendment to ERSa, installers of renewable energy facilities have to be registered and certified by the State Agency for Metrological and Technical Surveillance.</li><li>• Buildings with a useful total built-up area (TBA) over 500 square metres and which are occupied by a public body or frequently visited by citizens are subject to an obligatory energy efficiency audit and have to provide an energy performance certificate</li><li>• Any investment project for a new building with a total floor coverage of over 1000 m<sup>2</sup> must comply with the possibilities of using decentralised systems for the use of renewable energy. In these buildings, at least 15 percent of the total heating and cooling needed for the building shall have to be produced from renewable sources:</li></ul>
<b>Technologies</b>	The available support policies apply for all RES technologies
<b>Statutory provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EEA (Закон за енергийната ефективност – Energy Efficiency Act)</li><li>• ERSa (Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници – Energy from Renewable Sources Act)</li><li>• Ordinance No. 41 (Наредба № 41 от 9 януари 2012 г. за придобиване на квалификация по професията "монтьор на енергийни съоръжения и инсталации" - Ordinance No. 41 of 9 January 2012 on the vocational education for "fitters of energy equipment and installations")</li></ul>



### Basic information on legal sources

<b>Name of legal source</b> (original language)	Закон за енергийната ефективност	Закон за енергията от възобновяеми източници	Наредба № 41 от 9 януари 2012 г. за придобиване на квалификация по професията "монтьор на енергийни съоръжения и инсталации"
<b>Full name</b>			
<b>Name (English)</b>	Energy Efficiency Act	Energy from Renewable Sources Act	Ordinance No. 41 of 9 January 2012 on the vocational education for "fitters of energy equipment and installations"
<b>Abbreviated form</b>	EEA	ERSA	Ordinance No. 41
<b>Entry into force</b>	14.11.2008	03.05.2011	03.02.2011
<b>Last amended on</b>	05.07.2013	02.08.2013	03.02.2012
<b>Future amendments</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	This act stipulates the general conditions for energy efficiency in Bulgaria.	The act promotes the development and increased use of renewable energy and regulates the introduction of environmentally sound energy technologies and their access to the grid.	The ordinance regulates the vocational education for technicians in the energy sector.





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<b>Relevance for renewable energy</b>	The introduced energy efficiency measures include renewable energy technologies.	This act regulates the access of electricity from renewable sources to the grid and establishes a price regulation scheme to promote electricity from renewable sources.	This ordinance also regulates the training for installers of renewable energy facilities.
<b>Link to full text of legal source (original language)</b>	<a href="http://www.seea.government.bg/documents/ZEE.doc">http://www.seea.government.bg/documents/ZEE.doc</a>	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167">http://www.mi.government.bg/library/index/download/lang/en/fileId/167</a>	<a href="http://www.navet.government.bg/assets/cms/File/doi/Publikuvani_DOI_DV_2012/582050-naredba%20montajnik%20na%20VIK%20mreji.pdf">http://www.navet.government.bg/assets/cms/File/doi/Publikuvani_DOI_DV_2012/582050-naredba%20montajnik%20na%20VIK%20mreji.pdf</a>
<b>Link to full text of legal source (English)</b>	<a href="http://www.investbulgaria.com/Bulgaria/nEnergyEfficiencyAct.php">http://www.investbulgaria.com/Bulgaria/nEnergyEfficiencyAct.php</a>  Please note: The English translation does not provide information on the latest amendment of the Act.		

**Further information**

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Министерство на икономиката, енергетиката и туризма на Републиката България – Bulgarian Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism=	<a href="http://www.mi.government.bg/bg">http://www.mi.government.bg/bg</a>		+359 2 940 7001	<a href="mailto:e-docs@mee.government.bg">e-docs@mee.government.bg</a>
Министерство на образованието, младежта и науката – Ministry of Education and Youth	<a href="http://www.minedu.government.bg/news-home/">http://www.minedu.government.bg/news-home/</a>		+359 2 873 50 21	<a href="mailto:helpdesk@mon.bg">helpdesk@mon.bg</a>
Агенция за устойчиво енергийно развитие (АУЕР) – Sustainable Energy Development Agency	<a href="http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg">http://www.seea.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg</a>		+359 2 915 40 10	<a href="mailto:office@seea.government.bg">office@seea.government.bg</a>
Държавната агенция за метрологичен и технически надзор (ДАМТН) – State Agency for Metrological and Technical Surveillance (SAMTS)	<a href="http://www.damtn.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg">http://www.damtn.government.bg/index.php?lang=bg</a>		+359 2 980 89 20	<a href="mailto:damtn@damtn.government.bg">damtn@damtn.government.bg</a>



## Policy categories

### Training programmes for Installers (vocational education for “fitters of energy equipment and installations”)

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERSA</li> <li>• Ordinance No. 41</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	<p>The certification programme for installers is based on arts. 20a – 20e of ERSA, which have been adopted in the last amendment in April 2012. According to this amendment, the installation, maintenance, repair and reconstruction of renewable energy facilities with a total installed capacity up to 30 kW on roof and facade structures of buildings in urban areas, respectively up to 200 kW in industrial areas, shall be performed by persons registered by the State Agency for Metrological and Technical Surveillance (SAMTS) and having received a certificate issued by the SAMTS (art. 20a ERSA).</p> <p>A public register of these certified contractors is being published by the managing agency SAMTS. The certificates shall be issued to natural and legal persons entered in the commercial register providing staff with a higher technical education in the appropriate field and complying with the project documentation (art. 20b par. 1 and 2 ERSA).</p> <p>Registered persons are obliged to install or reconstruct facilities in accordance with the Law on Spatial Planning and are subject to the instructions for installation, maintenance and operation of the manufacturer (art. 20c ERSA).</p> <p>The content of the training programmes is regulated by Ordinance No. 41 on the vocational education for “fitters of energy equipment and installations”. Installers of renewable energy facilities shall be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• explain the purpose, principle of operation and constructions of RES plants, equipment and work processes</li> <li>• explain the technical and technological installation requirements</li> <li>• participate in preparations of the site and select the necessary equipment</li> <li>• assemble and disassemble facilities, pipes and fittings complying with the technological order</li> <li>• report the implementation of these activities (item 4 no. 17 Ordinance No. 41)</li> </ul>



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<b>Addressees</b>	<p>Educational requirements to obtain the second degree of qualification in the profession “fitter of energy facilities and equipment” from the list of professions for vocational education and training issued by the Ministry of Education (item 1.1 Ordinance No. 41):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ completed primary education or one grade of secondary education for a training period of less than 4 years</li> <li>○ completed primary education for a training period of 4 years</li> </ul> </li> <li>• persons aged 16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ one grade of secondary education or completed secondary education for a training period of one year</li> <li>○ completed primary education for a training period of 4 years</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Applicants for training programmes, which have no formal professional degree but experience in the profession “fitter of energy facilities and equipment”, can be accepted to a follow up training after being examined by a commission (item 1.2 Ordinance No. 41).</p>	
<b>Competent authority</b>	The procedure for issuing the certificate and entry in the register is determined by the Minister of Economy and Energy following the suggestion of the SAMTS.	
<b>Further information</b>	A detailed description of the professional training and contents of the final examination can be found in Ordinance No. 41.	
<b>Distribution of costs</b>	<b>State</b>	
	<b>Private Financing</b>	The costs for the professional training and examination are borne by the installers themselves.
	<b>European Union</b>	
	<b>Others</b>	



## Certification Programmes for RES installations

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)		
Description	<p>As yet, facilities do not need to meet any quality standards in order to benefit from support schemes. At the same time, there are many national standards for renewable energy technologies but none of them is linked to eligibility for support schemes. There are only requirements regarding the type of equipment for which funding is provided through aid schemes and these are laid down in the definitions of the eligible activities under the relevant assistance programmes.</p> <p>Several standards have been introduced concerning the characteristics of solid biofuels – in particular their moisture content, ash content, lower calorific value, etc. – but they are not linked to eligibility for support schemes.</p>	
Addressees		
Competent authority		
Further information		
Distribution of costs	State	
	Industry	
	System Producers	
	European Union	
	Others	



## Exemplary role of public authorities in accordance with Art. 13 Abs, 5 RES Directive

<b>Abbreviated form of legal source(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEA</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	<p>Buildings with a useful total built-up area (TBA) over 500 square metres and which are occupied by a public body or frequently visited by citizens are subject to an obligatory energy efficiency audit and have to provide an energy performance certificate (art. 17 in conjunction with art. 19 EEA).</p> <p>In addition, as of 9 July 2015, the TBA of buildings subject to obligatory certification will be reduced to 250 square metres (art. 17 in conjunction with art. 19 EEA).</p>
<b>Addressees</b>	The state and local municipalities
<b>Competent authority</b>	Sustainable Energy Development Agency
<b>Further information</b>	



## RES-H building obligations

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EEA</li> <li>• ERSA</li> </ul>
Description	<p>Obligations related to the use of renewable sources to produce energy in buildings are defined in Article 15 par. 2 no. 1 of the Energy Efficiency Act. According to this regulation, any investment project for a new building with a total floor coverage of over 1000 m<sup>2</sup> must comply with the possibilities of using decentralised systems for the use of renewable energy. This requirement is also part of the new ERSA, stating that in the construction of new or reconstruction, major renovation, overhaul or refurbishing of existing buildings, installations will become operational for production of energy from renewable sources where this is technically feasible and economically viable (art. 20 par. 1 ERSA).</p> <p>In these buildings, at least 15 percent of the total heating and cooling needed for the building shall have to be produced from renewable sources (art. 20 par. 2 ERSA) by installing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• district heating using biomass or geothermal energy;</li> <li>• individual facilities for burning biomass with a conversion efficiency of at least 85 percent for residential and commercial buildings and 70 percent for industrial buildings;</li> <li>• solar thermal installations;</li> <li>• heat pumps and near-surface geothermal systems.</li> </ul> <p>In the preparation of investment projects for new buildings or reconstruction, major renovation, overhaul or refurbishing of existing buildings, the possibilities of using renewable energy to demonstrate the technical feasibility and economic viability shall be mandatorily analysed. The analysis of the possibilities for using energy from renewable sources is part of the evaluation indicators of annual energy consumption in the building (art. 20 par. 3 ERSA).</p> <p>In case of implementation of projects for modernisation of production processes in small and medium enterprises, the energy efficiency measures shall be combined with the commissioning into operation of plants for production of heating and cooling from renewable sources for meeting the technological needs of the enterprise (art. 20 par. 4 ERSA).</p>



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	<p>Concerning public buildings, these obligations came into effect on 1 January 2012; for all other buildings they will become effective from 31 December 2014.</p> <p>The administrative sanctions under the Energy Efficiency Act provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a fine of BGN 1,000 to 10,000 (EUR 500 – 5,000) or a penalty payment of BGN 5,000 to 50,000 (EUR 2,500 – 25,000) for investors who fail to meet their obligation to certify a building project (art. 71 EEA);</li> <li>• a fine of BGN 500 to 1,500 (EUR 250 – 750) or a penalty payment of BGN 1,000 to 10,000 (EUR 500 – 5,000) for any person failing to meet any other obligations under this act (art. 86 EEA).</li> </ul>
<b>Obligated entities</b>	Building investors
<b>Competent authority</b>	Sustainable Energy Development Agency
<b>Further information</b>	
<b>Obligation on regional level</b>	No





## Support of RES-H infrastructure

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	
Description	Heating infrastructure using renewable energy sources (mainly biomass) is constructed in relation to each project. This applies both to new district heating plants and to existing ones in which the use of fossil fuels — gas, coal and petrol — is supplemented by renewable energy sources. Therefore, there is no general support scheme for RES-H infrastructure.
Addressees	
Competent authority	
Further information	