



Renewable energy policy database and support – RES-LEGAL EUROPE

National profile: Estonia

Client: DG Energy

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Estonia – summary text

In Estonia, electricity from renewable sources is mainly promoted through a premium tariff. In addition, investment supports are available for specific types of renewable energy production technologies. To encourage the use of renewable energy sources for heating, investment supports are made available for the construction of CHP plants, as well as for private consumers. In transport, the use of renewable energies is currently mainly encouraged through a support scheme to promote the purchasing of electric cars that use power produced from renewable energy sources.

Access of electricity from renewable energy sources to the electricity grid is granted based on the principle of non-discrimination. The grid operator is obliged to develop the grid to guarantee grid services for all electricity producers and to be able to connect further electricity plants to the grid. The connection of a heat generation plant to the grid follows the principle of non-discrimination, the concrete procedure and conditions are determined by local authorities.

Additionally, there are a number of investment support schemes available to promote the development, installation and use of RES installations,



RES-E support schemes

Summary of support schemes

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| Overview | In the Republic of Estonia, renewable energy is promoted mainly through a premium tariff. In addition, investments supports are available for certain types of renewable energy production technologies. |
| Summary of support system | <p>Premium tariff. The operators of renewable energy systems may sell the electricity produced on the free market to receive a bonus on top of the market price.</p> <p>Investment supports are granted to develop the technology and infrastructure necessary for the production of energy from renewable sources.</p> |
| Technologies | <p>Premium tariff is in general applicable to all renewable electricity generation technologies.</p> <p>Investment supports are granted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to (re)construct the CHP plants and infrastructure related to it, to develop the technology necessary for processing and producing energy from biomass, to develop the energy production from wind. |
| Statutory provisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Market Act (ELTS) (Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 – Electricity Market Act) Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies (Meetme "Taastuenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 – Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of renewable energy sources for power production) Terms and Procedure for the use of the Investment Support for the Production of Bioenergy (Bioenergia tootmise investeeringutoetuse saamise nõuded, toetuse taotlemise ja taotluse menetlemise täpsem kord RT I 2010, 50, 311 - Terms and Procedure for the use of the Investment Support for the Production of Bioenergy) Terms and Procedure for the use of the Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy (Rohelise investeeringuskeemi „Tuult energiaallikana kasutava elektritootja investeeringute toetus” tingimused ja |



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| | kord RT I 2010, 78, 596 – Terms and Procedure for the use of the Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy) |
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Basic information on legal sources

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Name of legal source (original language) | Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 (ELTS) | Meetme "Taastuenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 | Bioenergia tootmise investeeringutoetuse saamise nõuded, toetuse taotlemise ja taotluse menetlemise täpsem kord RT I 2010, 50, 311 | Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Tuult energiaallikana kasutava elektritootja investeeringute toetus” tingimused ja kord RT I 2010, 78, 596 |
| Full name | | | | |
| Name (English) | Electricity Market Act | Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of renewable energy sources for power production. | Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the Production of energy from biomass. | Terms and Procedure for the use of the Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy |
| Abbreviated form | ELTS | Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies. | Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy | Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy |
| Entry into force | 01.07.2003 | 03.04.2009 | 26.07.2010 | 23.10.2010 |
| Last amended on | 01.03.2013 | 12.11.2012 | 07.09.2012 | 03.02.2013 |
| Future amendments | 01.01.2014 | | | |



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| Purpose | Regulating the energy market. | Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of EU structural funds in the field of renewable energy. | Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of EU agricultural funds for investment to biomass energy production. | Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of investment support for wind energy producers. |
| Relevance for renewable energy | The Act regulates the promotion of renewable energy, its connection and access to the grid, the expansion of the grid and the distribution of the costs arising from this support system. It equally regulates the criteria for eligibility and the amount of support specific to each RES generation technology. | The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility concerning investments to promote the wider use of renewable energy in power production. | The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility and the procedure concerning investments to promote the wider use of biomass energy in power production by farmers. | The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility and the procedure concerning investments available for wind energy plants. |
| Link to full text of legal source (original language) | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/ELTS | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/109112012011?leiaKehtiv | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/110082011003 | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13364729 |
| Link to full text of legal source (English) | http://www.legaltext.ee/et/andmebaas/tekst.asp?loc=text&dok=X60045K9&keel=en&pg=1&ptyyp=RT&tyyp=X&query=elektrituruseadus | | | |



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Further information

| Institution (name) | Website | Name of contact person (optional) | Telephone number (head office) | E-mail (optional) |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications | http://www.mkm.ee/en | Viive Savel | +372 625 64 48 | viive.savel@mkm.ee |
| Keskkonnainvesteeringute Keskus (KIK) – Environmental Investment Centre | http://www.kik.ee/ | | + 372 627 4125 | |
| Tartu Ülikool (UT) - University of Tartu | http://www.ut.ee/en | Dr. Ain Kull | +372 737 56 00 | ain.kull@ut.ee |



Support schemes

Subsidy I (Investment support for the reconstruction of RES CHP plants)

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| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies | |
| Contact Authority | kik.ee | |
| Summary | <p>The EU Regional Development Funds and state funds are used to support investments to infrastructure and technology to enhance the production of energy from renewable sources. Through this scheme, investments supports are made available for the construction of RES CHP plants and for the reconstruction of boiler-houses and necessary infrastructure to make them operational for renewable energies.</p> | |
| Eligible technologies | General information | <p>The investment supports are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for the construction and renovation of RES CHP plants, including the necessary infrastructure for connecting the plant to the grid for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies for raising the energy efficiency of the district heating networks, including the construction of new connection grids (§ 5 par.1 Investment Eligibility Conditions). <p>Support cannot be allocated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to the (re)construction CHP plants with a capacity exceeding 2MW outside of Estonian islands, to boiler-houses with a capacity exceeding 4 MW to projects with a total budget higher than 50 million Euros (§ 5 par.2 Investment Eligibility Conditions). <p>The allocation of support is round-based.</p> |



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| | Wind energy | |
| | Solar energy | |
| | Geothermal energy | |
| | Biogas | |
| | Hydro-power | |
| | Biomass | |
| Amount | Support allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies is between 32,000 and 3.5 million Euros depending on the action supported (§ 9 par.1-2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). | |
| Addressees | Support allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses is addressed to legal persons, local municipalities, NGOs and foundations who are providers or retailers of district heating services in the region (§ 10 par.1 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). | |
| Procedure | Process flow | Procedure concerning the investment supports allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses is specified in § 10 and § 11 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act. The maximum duration of the project is 48 months and it has to end no later than by the 31st of August 2015 (§ 7 par.2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). |



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| | Competent authority | Competent authority is the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre. |
| Flexibility mechanism | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Consumers | |
| | Plant operator | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | European Union | The support is coming from the European Union Structural Funds. |
| | Distribution mechanism | |



Subsidy II (Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy)

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| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy | |
| Contact Authority | pria.ee | |
| Summary | Through this measure, investments are available to support farmers in creating the necessary conditions for processing, production and consumption of energy from biomass. | |
| Eligible technologies | General information | |
| | Wind energy | |
| | Solar energy | |
| | Geothermal energy | |
| | Biogas | |
| | Hydro-power | |
| | Biomass | <p>The investment supports for the use of bio energy by farmers are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for the growing of an energy culture, for processing of biomass and for the production of heat, electricity and fuel from biomass (In case of investment for the production of energy from biomass, the energy must be consumed by the farmer for business or personal means), |



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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support to the construction infrastructure necessary for the two abovementioned points (§ 5 par.1, 2 Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy). |
| Amount | The investment supports for farmers for the use of bio energy covers 40% of the eligible investment costs (in certain cases up to 60% of the eligible costs). The total amount of support available per applicant is 512,000 Euros (§ 8 par.1-8 Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy). | |
| Addressees | The investment supports for the use of bio energy is addressed to entrepreneurs who got at least 50% of their profit share from the processing and sales of agricultural products (§ 2 par.1 Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy). | |
| Procedure | Process flow | The procedure and requirements concerning the investment supports for the use of bio energy are specified in § 9 and § 10 of the Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy Act. The allocation of support is round-based; farmers complying with the eligibility criteria are expected to send their application to the Estonian Agricultural Registers and Information Board. The dead-lines for applications have to be previously made public in the Official Announcements section. |
| | Competent authority | Competent authority is the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with the Estonian Agricultural Registers and Information Board. |
| Flexibility mechanism | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Consumers | |



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| | Plant operator | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | European Union | The measure is funded through the resources from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). |
| | Distribution mechanism | |



Subsidy III (Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy)

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| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy | |
| Contact Authority | kik.ee | |
| Summary | The EU Regional Development Funds and state funds are used to support investments to infrastructure and technology to enhance the production of energy from renewable sources. With this support measure investments are available for wind energy production technologies. | |
| Eligible technologies | General information | |
| | Wind energy | Eligible. |
| | Solar energy | |
| | Geothermal energy | |
| | Biogas | |
| | Hydro-power | |
| | Biomass | |
| Amount | The investment support allocated for the producers of wind energy is approximately between 3.2 million and 20 million Euros depending from the scope of the project (§ 8 Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy Act). | |



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| Addressees | The investment support allocated for the investment in wind energy production technology is addressed to wind energy producers. | |
| Procedure | Process flow | The allocation of funds is round-based, the granting of the investment is decided on the basis of the application submitted. The call for applications is published at least 60 days before the application deadline in a nationwide newspaper. The whole amount of support granted for each round is decided by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications (§ 9 Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy) |
| | Competent authority | Competent authority is the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre. |
| Flexibility mechanism | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | The program is financed as a part of the Green Investment Scheme by the resources the government obtained through the sales of the Assigned Amount Units. |
| | Consumers | |
| | Plant operator | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | European Union | |



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| | Distribution mechanism | |
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Premium tariff

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| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Market Act | |
| Contact Authority | mkm.ee | |
| Summary | <p>Where an electricity producer sells electricity on the free market and exports it to the electricity grid, the transmission grid operator shall pay a bonus on top of the selling price (§ 59 par. 1, 2 ELTS). However, currently the Estonian Parliament is discussing amendments to the existing legislation, which would result in a considerably reformed system (differentiated tariffs for different technologies, higher market exposure, ending the currently applicable subsidies to the oil-shale industry etc).</p> | |
| Eligible technologies | General information | <p>All renewable electricity generation technologies are eligible; however, for some technologies eligibility is subject to compliance with certain requirements (§ 59.1 par. 2 ELTS). Electricity produced for the power plants' own use is not eligible for support (§ 59.1 par.2.5 ELTS).</p> |
| | Wind energy | <p>Eligible with the following restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tariff scheme will be suspended for the current calendar year as soon as a total of 600 GWh of electricity from wind energy has already been supported. The amount of support available for calendar year is 76,694 000 Euros (§ 59.1 par. 5, 6 ELTS). Electricity generated by a wind power plant is not eligible if the plant operator has received other investment subsidies |



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| | | from the state for the same plant (§ 59.1 par. 2.3 ES). |
| | Solar energy | Eligible. |
| | Geothermal energy | Eligible. |
| | Biogas | Eligible. |
| | Hydro-power | Eligible. |
| | Biomass | Eligible under the following condition: The electricity must be generated by high-efficiency CHP plants (§ 59 par. 1.2 § 108 par. 1.2 ELTS). Electricity generated by conventional thermal power stations is not eligible (§ 59 par. 1 ES). |
| Amount | General information | The bonus amounts to 5.37 €ct per kilowatt hour and does not differ for the individual technologies (§ 59 par. 2 no. 1 ES). However, CHP plants with a production capacity below 10 MW using waste, peat or oil-shale retorting gas are eligible for a tariff amounting to 3.2 €ct per kilowatt hour (§ 59 par.2 no. 2 ES). |
| | Wind energy | |
| | Solar energy | |
| | Geothermal energy | |
| | Biogas | |



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| | Hydro-power | |
| | Biomass | |
| Degression | General information | Statutory law does not provide for an adjustment mechanism. |
| | Wind energy | |
| | Solar energy | |
| | Geothermal energy | |
| | Biogas | |
| | Hydro-power | |
| | Biomass | |
| Cap | The amount of electricity from wind energy to be supported is limited to a total of 600 GWh per calendar year. The whole amount of support available for this period is 76,694 000 Euros (§ 59.1 par. 5, 6 ELTS). | |
| Eligibility period | Eligibility to the bonus system is limited to a maximum of 12 years from the date of commissioning (§ 108 par. 1 ES). The commissioning date of a plant or system is the day on which it reaches 80% of its nominal capacity for the first time (§ 108 par. 3 ELTS). | |
| Addressees | <p>Entitled party: The persons entitled are the energy producers (§ 59 par. 1 ELTS).</p> <p>Obligated party: The person obligated is the transmission grid operator (§ 59 par. 1 ELTS).</p> | |



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| Procedure | Process flow | Plant operators are statutorily entitled against the transmission grid operator to the payment of a guaranteed bonus for every kilowatt hour of electricity produced (§ 59 par. 1 ES). The grid operator shall pay the support to electricity producers by the 21 st of each month (§ 59.2 par.9). |
| | Competent authority | <p>No authority is responsible for implementing the bonus scheme as the legal framework established by the ELTS applies to private individuals, system operators and grid operators and not to authorities.</p> <p>Obligation to inform. By the 5th of each month the electricity producers must provide the transmission grid operator with the data concerning the amount of electricity produced from renewable energies/CHP plants that were sold using the Premium tariff (§ 58 par 3).</p> |
| Flexibility Mechanism | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Consumers | In the end, the costs arising from the premium tariff system are borne by the final consumers, who are obliged to pay an additional renewable energy fee on top of their electricity bill and grid use charges (§ 59.2 par. 1 ELTS). |
| | Plant operator | |



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| | Grid operator | |
| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | <p>Every 1st of December, the transmission grid operator shall publish an estimate of the costs of the bonus scheme on its webpage. This estimate is the basis on which the transmission grid operator calculates the costs for the year to come. These costs are proportionally added to every single kilowatt hour of grid services and grid use. Thus, the price for grid services increases and the costs can be passed on to the consumers, who pay for the grid services (§ 59.2 par. 1-8 ELTS).</p> |



RES-E grid issues

Overview

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| Overview of grid issues | In Estonia, access of renewable energy plants to the grid is subject to the general legislation on energy. Electricity from renewable sources is not given priority. Thus, plant operators are entitled against the grid operator to the connection of their plants to the grid and the transmission of electricity according to non-discriminatory criteria. Furthermore, the grid operator is obliged to upgrade his grid if the upgrade is necessary to connect a plant to the grid. The costs of such an upgrade shall be borne by the operator of the plant in question. |
| Connection to the grid | On request, the grid operator is obliged to the plant operator to connect plants within his area of responsibility as soon as they comply with the technical requirements. The connection of plants shall be based on non-discriminatory criteria. The costs arising from the connection of a plant to the grid are borne by the plant operator. |
| Use of the grid | The grid operator is statutorily obligated to transmit via his grid the electricity generated and sold by the plant operators on the basis of non-discriminatory criteria. The grid use costs are borne by the electricity buyer. |
| Grid expansion | The grid operator is statutorily obliged to expand the grid within his area of responsibility to ensure that it meets the required standards. Moreover, a plant operator may demand that the grid operator upgrade the grid if the upgrade is necessary to connect a plant. The costs of such an upgrade shall be borne by the operator of the plant in question. |
| Statutory provisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Market Act (ELTS) (Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 (ES) – law regulating the functioning of the electricity market) Grid Code (Võrgueeskiri RT I 2003, 49, 347 – grid code) Quality Requirements for Grid Services (Võrguteenuste kvaliteedinõuded ja võrgutasude vähendamise tingimused kvaliteedinõuete rikkumise korral RT I, 29.12.2010, 47 – quality requirements for grid services) |



Basic information on legal sources

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Name of legal source (original language) | Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 (ES) | Võrgueeskiri RT I 2003, 49, 347 | Võrguteenuste kvaliteedinõuded RT I, 29.12.2010, 47 |
| Full name | | | Võrguteenuste kvaliteedinõuded ja võrgutasude vähendamise tingimused kvaliteedinõuete rikkumise korral |
| Name (English) | Electricity Market Act | Grid Code | Quality Requirements for Grid Services |
| Abbreviated form | ES | Grid Code | Quality Requirements for Grid Services |
| Entry into force | 01.07.2003 | 01.07.2003 | 17.04.2005 |
| Last amended on | 01.03.2013 | 01.01.2013 | 01.01.2011 |
| Future amendments | 01.01.2014 | | |
| Purpose | Regulating the energy market. | Regulating the technical requirements for the connection of plants to the grid and ensuring grid security. | Regulating the quality requirements for grid services, putting in place the conditions for reduction of grid fees in case of violation of these requirements. |
| Relevance for renewable energy | The Act regulates the promotion of renewable energy, its connection and | The Grid Code sets out the requirements for the connection of renewable energy | The quality requirements for grid services apply equally in case of renewable |



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| | | | |
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| | access to the grid, the expansion of the grid and the distribution of the costs arising from this support system. | plants to the grid. | energy plants. |
| Link to full text of legal source (original language) | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/ELTS | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13351788?leiaKehtiv | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/129122010047 |
| Link to full text of legal source (English) | http://www.legaltext.ee/et/andmebaas/tekst.asp?loc=text&dok=X60045K9&keel=en&pg=1&ptyyp=RT&tyyp=X&query=elektrituruseadus Please note: the English translation dates from 01.01.2013 | http://www.legaltext.ee/et/andmebaas/tekst.asp?loc=text&dok=XXXX010K1&keel=en&pg=1&ptyyp=RT&tyyp=X&query=qrid Please note: The English translation dates from 01.01.2011 and does therefore not take into account the latest amendments. | |



Further information

| Institution (name) | Website | Name of contact person (optional) | Telephone number (head office) | E-mail (optional) |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications | http://www.mkm.ee/en | Viive Savel | +372 625 64 48 | viive.savel@mkm.ee |
| Tartu Ülikool (UT) - University of Tartu | http://www.ut.ee/en | Dr. Ain Kull | +372 737 56 00 | ain.kull@ut.ee |
| Elering OÜ – Transmission system operator | http://elering.ee/en/ | | +372 715 1222 | |
| Estonian Wind Power Association (EWPA) | http://www.tuuleenergia.ee/en/ | | +372 6 396 625 | |



Grid issues

Connection to the grid

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|--|---|------------------|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal sources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity Market Act • Grid Code • Quality Requirements for Grid Services | | |
| Contact Authority | elering.ee | | |
| Overview | <p>The grid operator is obliged to the plant operators to connect plants within his area of responsibility on request and on the basis of non-discriminatory criteria. Moreover, he is obliged to establish a connection as soon as the technical and legal requirements are met (§ 65 par. 1 no. 1 ELTS). The costs of connecting a plant to the grid are borne by the plant operator (§ 71 par. 1 no 1 ELTS). If the grid operator violates his obligation to connect plants he shall pay a fine (§ 101 ELTS). The grid operator is obliged to the plant operators to guarantee certain quality requirements, in case of failure, the grid fees shall be lowered (§ 65 par. 5 ELTS, specified in Quality Requirements for Grid Services).</p> | | |
| Procedure | <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="598 908 1070 1311">Procedure</td><td data-bbox="1070 908 2047 1311"> <p>According to the Grid Code, the following steps must be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application for connection and submission of other relevant documents containing technical characteristics and data of the plant (§ 32 par. 1 Grid Code). • For wind energy plants: The transmission grid operator must take the corresponding decision within 30 days after receipt of the application for connection (§ 18 par. 1 no. 1 Grid Code). • For wind energy plants: Concerning the electrical part of the wind farm the grid operator must take the corresponding decision within 30 days after receipt of the application for connection, in exceptional cases it might take up to 60 days (§ 18 par. 1 no. 2 Grid Code). </td></tr> </table> | Procedure | <p>According to the Grid Code, the following steps must be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application for connection and submission of other relevant documents containing technical characteristics and data of the plant (§ 32 par. 1 Grid Code). • For wind energy plants: The transmission grid operator must take the corresponding decision within 30 days after receipt of the application for connection (§ 18 par. 1 no. 1 Grid Code). • For wind energy plants: Concerning the electrical part of the wind farm the grid operator must take the corresponding decision within 30 days after receipt of the application for connection, in exceptional cases it might take up to 60 days (§ 18 par. 1 no. 2 Grid Code). |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer to conclude a connection agreement within 30 days (for plants connected to the distribution grid) or within 90 days (for plants connected to the transmission grid) after receipt of the application (§ 32 par. 7 Grid Code). • The offer must be accepted within 60 days (§ 32 par. 8, 9 Grid Code). • Grid upgrade if capacity is insufficient. (§ 66 par. 1 ES) • The plant is connected and electricity is exported to the grid. • For wind energy plants: According to the transmission grid operator, wind farms are tested for their effect on the transmission grid by the operator of the wind farm; the test results are assessed by the transmission grid operator. • For wind energy plants: According to the transmission grid operator, wind farms must obtain his final authorisation. <p>The technical requirements for connection are specified in the Grid Code. Small-scale plants (capacity <200 kW) must follow a less complex procedure (§ 32.2 Grid Code):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application for connection (§ 32 par. 1 Grid Code). • Offer to conclude an agreement on connection to the distribution grid within 30 days after receipt of the application (for plants connected to the distribution grid) or within 90 days (for plants connected to the transmission grid) after receipt of the application (§ 32 par. 7 Grid Code). The offer must be accepted within 60 days (§ 32 par. 8, 9 Grid Code). • After the conclusion of the agreement in case when the connection affects the connection capacity of the small-scale plant the transmission grid operator shall make additional capacity available (§ 32.2 par.2 Grid Code). • Grid upgrade if capacity is insufficient. • The plant is connected and electricity is exported to the grid. <p>RES Plants with a capacity of < 15 kW are not required to have an approval from the transmission grid operator (§ 32.2 par. 3 Grid Code).</p> |
| | Deadlines | <p>Apart from the deadlines related to the connection procedure, the following time limits must be respected:</p> <p>§ 32 par. 10 Grid Code lists the deadlines for the payment of costs related to the</p> |



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| | | <p>connection of a plant to the grid.</p> <p>If grid connection is not established within three years after completion of the connection point, the connection agreement ceases to be valid (§ 32 par. 12 Grid Code).</p> |
| | Obligation to inform | <p>The information to be provided by the plant operator is specified in § 32 par. 1 and 2 of the Grid Code. The grid operator's relevant obligations are brought out in § 32 par. 3 of the Grid Code.</p> <p>The grid operator must publish the technical conditions and the applying fees for the connection to the grid on its website (§ 70 par. 3, 4 ES). Once the connection to the grid has been established, the grid operator must provide information concerning the details of the connection on its website (§ 32 par. 14 Grid Code).</p> |
| Priority to renewable energy (qualitative criteria) | <p>() Priority to renewable energy</p> <p>(x) Non-discrimination</p> | <p>Statutory law does not give priority to renewable energy. The grid operator is obliged to respect the principle of non-discrimination when providing grid services to the market participants (§ 65 par. 2 ELTS).</p> |
| Capacity limits (quantitative criteria) | <p>The grid operator may refuse to connect a plant if grid capacity is insufficient (§ 65 par. 3 no. 4 ELTS).</p> | |
| Distribution of costs | | |
| | State | |
| | Consumers | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | Plant operator | <p>According to the grid operators, the costs of connection to the grid are borne by the</p> |



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| | | |
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| | | plant operators (§ 71 par. 1 no. 1, 3 ELTS). |
| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | Statutory law does not provide for a distribution mechanism. |



Use of the grid

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal sources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Market Act | |
| Contact Authority | elering.ee | |
| Overview | The grid operator is obliged by law to transmit electricity via his grid (§ 65 par. 1 no. 4 ELTS). . The grid operator shall ensure the measurement of the amounts of electricity supplied to and from its network (§ 67 par. 1 ELTS). | |
| Procedure | Process flow | There is no formal procedure for the use of the grid. |
| | Deadlines | Statutory law does not specify any time limits or deadlines. |
| | Obligation to inform | |
| Priority to renewable energy (qualitative criteria) | <input type="checkbox"/> Priority to renewable energy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-discrimination | Statutory law does not give priority to renewable energy. The grid operator shall respect the principle of non-discrimination when providing grid services to the market participants (§ 65 par. 2 ELTS). |
| Curtailement | Because of technical reasons or in order to guarantee stability in supply the transmission grid operator may oblige the plant operators to increase or reduce the output of their plants (§ 40 par. 2 ELTS). | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Consumers | |
| | Grid operator | According to the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the electricity buyer bears the costs of grid use (§ 71 par. 1 no. 4 ELTS). The grid charge is added on top of the price paid for consumed electricity. |
| | Plant operator | |



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| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | Statutory law does not provide for a distribution mechanism. |



Grid expansion

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abbreviated form of legal source | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Market Act | |
| Contact Authority | elering.ee | |
| Overview | <p>The grid operator is obliged by law to develop the grid within his area of service in such a way as to maintain grid services for all electricity producers and be able to connect further electricity plants to the grid (§ 66 par. 1 ELTS). According to the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, a plant operator may demand that the grid operator upgrade the grid if the upgrade is necessary to connect a plant.</p> | |
| Procedure | Procedure | The law does not specify a procedure to be followed by the plant operators. |
| | Enforcement of claims | |
| | Deadlines | |
| | Obligation to inform | |
| Regulatory incentives for grid expansion and innovation | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Consumers | According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the consumers bear the costs of the expansion of the grid (§ 71 par. 1 no. 2 ES). |



| | | |
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| | Grid operator | |
| | Plant operator | According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the plant operator bears the costs of connecting a plant to the grid (§ 71 par. 1 no. 3 ELTS). |
| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the costs of grid expansion are included in the calculation of the charges for grid use and are thus passed on to the grid users. This redistribution is possible only if the expansion serves to guarantee supply. |
| Grid studies | <p>This scientific study dating from 2004 is conducted by the Tallinn University of Technology on the demand of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications. It analyses the production and transmission of electricity in Estonia during the years 2005-2015 and foresees the necessary grid developments and investments to the infrastructure. Available only in Estonian. http://www.seit.ee/files/Elektritootmine.PDF</p> <p>"Development Plan of the Estonian Electricity Sector until 2018", put together by the Ministry of Economics and Communications. Contains among other issues the relevant measures to be put in place concerning the planning and development of grids. http://www.mkm.ee/public/ELMAK_EN.pdf</p> <p>"National Spatial plan Estonia 2030+" tackles the issues of spatial planning, infrastructure and energy production. Currently only available in Estonian. http://eesti2030.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/eesti-2030-tekst_111031.pdf</p> <p>Study by a Danish Consulting company EA Energy Analyses which explores the potential of wind power in Estonia in the light of grid development and - capacities. http://www.ea-energianalyse.dk/reports/1001_Wind_Power_in_Estonia.pdf</p> | |



RES-H&C support schemes

Summary of support systems

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Overview | In Estonia RES-H&C is supported through various investment subsidies. The distribution of the support is round-based and is allocated based on applications and available funds. |
| Summary of support schemes | <p>The investment support can be accorded for the construction of RES CHP plants, for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies and for the reconstruction of the district heating network to improve energy efficiency. RES CHP plants are equally eligible for a premium tariff, where the producer receives a bonus on top of the market price, but here the support is allocated according to electricity produced.</p> <p>Additionally, investment supports are made available for the owners of private houses and apartment buildings, to allow them the purchasing of RES plants for the production of heat.</p> |
| Technologies | Investment supports for private houses are available for the purchasing and installation of solar energy plants and for the installation of geo- and hydrothermal heat pumps. Investment supports for apartment buildings are made available to cover the costs of installing the necessary equipment for the use of RES plants. |
| Statutory provisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Investment eligibility conditions for the wider use of renewable energies (Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 – Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of renewable energy sources for power production)Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses (Rohelise investeerimiskeemi „Väikeelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 06.04.2012, 1 - The |



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| | <p>regulation sets up the criteria and procedure for investment support aimed to help private houses to purchase RES plants to be able to produce renewable energy for their own use)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings (Rohelise investeeringiskeemi “Korterelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I 2010, 58, 397) |
|--|--|



Basic information on legal sources

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Name of legal source (original language) | Meetme "Taastuenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 | Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Väikeelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 06.04.2012, 1 | Rohelise investeerimisskeemi “Korterelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I 2010, 58, 397 |
| Full name | | | |
| Name (English) | Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of renewable energy sources for power production. | Conditions and procedure for the investment support for reconstruction of private houses. | Conditions and procedure for the investment support for reconstruction of apartment buildings. |
| Abbreviated form | Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies. | Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses | Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings |
| Entry into force | 03.04.2009 | 09.04.2012 | 22.08.2010 |
| Last amended on | 12.11.2012 | 23.04.2012 | 18.05.2012 |
| Future amendments | | | |
| Purpose | Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of EU structural | The regulation sets up the criteria and procedure concerning investment supports for (re)construction of private | The regulation sets up the criteria and procedure concerning investment supports for (re)construction of |



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| | | | |
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| | funds in the field of renewable energy. | houses to guarantee their energy-efficiency and able them to produce renewable energy for their own use. | apartment buildings to guarantee their energy-efficiency and enable them to produce energy for their own use. |
| Relevance for renewable energy | The Act sets up the criteria for eligibility concerning investments to promote the wider use of renewable energy in power production. | Support can be used to purchase and install RES plants to allow houses to produce energy for their own use. | Support can be used to install the necessary equipment to use energy produced from RES. |
| Link to full text of legal source (original language) | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/1335804_1 | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/1200420_12007 | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/1200520_11003 |
| Link to full text of legal source (English) | | | |



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Further information

| Institution (name) | Website | Name of contact person (optional) | Telephone number (head office) | E-mail (optional) |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications | http://www.mkm.ee | Jako Reinaste | +372 6256419 | jako.reinaste@mkm.ee |
| Keskkonnainvesteeringute Keskus (KIK) – Environmental Investment Centre | http://www.kik.ee | | +372 627 41 25 | |



Support schemes

Subsidy I (Investment support for the reconstruction of RES CHP plants)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies | |
| Contact Authority | kik.ee | |
| Summary | <p>Investment supports are available for the (re)construction of infrastructure and technology to enhance the building of CHP plants and to encourage the wider use of RES. The investment support distribution is round-based and is allocated based on applications. The Environmental Investment Centre announces the launching of the investment support at least 90 days prior to the deadline for applications on its website and at least in two nationwide newspapers (§12 par. 2 Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies).</p> | |
| Eligible technologies | General information | <p>The investment supports are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for the construction of RES CHP plants for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies for the reconstruction of the district heating network to improve energy efficiency (§ 5 par.1 Investment Eligibility Conditions). <p>Support cannot be allocated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to the (re)construction CHP plants with a capacity > 2MW outside of Estonian islands, to boiler-houses with a capacity > 4 MW to projects with a total budget superior to 50 million Euros (§ 5 par.2 Investment Eligibility Conditions). |
| | Aerothermal | |



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| | Hydrothermal | |
| | Biogas | |
| | Biomass | |
| | Geothermal energy | |
| | Solar Thermal | |
| Amount | Support allocated for the construction of RES CHP plants and for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies is between € 31,955.82 and € 1,278,232.97 depending on the action supported (§ 9, par.1-2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). The exact amount of support available for each round is decided by the Environmental Investment Centre. | |
| Addressees | Support allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses is addressed to legal persons, local municipalities, NGOs and foundations (§ 10, par.1 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). | |
| Procedure | Process flow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 90 days prior to the application deadline the Environment Investment Centre publishes the information concerning the application round. • The producer presents an application to the Environment Investment Centre according to the conditions given in § 11 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act. • The Environment Investment Centre concludes a ranking based on the applications submitted and allocates resources on the basis of available funds (§ 15 par. 2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). • The decision for the allocation of support is taken not later than 90 days after the application deadline (§ 17 par. 1 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). |



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| | Competent authority | The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre. |
| Flexibility mechanism | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Consumers | |
| | Plant operator | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | European Union | The investment support is financed by the European Union Structural Funds. |
| | Distribution mechanism | |



Subsidy II (Investment conditions for the reconstruction of private houses and apartment buildings)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings | |
| Contact Authority | kredex.ee | |
| Summary | <p>Investment supports are made available for the owners of private houses and apartment buildings to enable them to conduct energy efficient renovations. Investment supports for private houses are available for the purchasing and installation of RES plants to be able to produce energy for their own use. Support for the reconstruction of apartment buildings is made available to cover the costs of installing the necessary equipment for the use of energy from RES plants. These programs are funded under the Green Investment Scheme, which means that the Government invests the money gained from the sales of the AAU-s to environmental projects. Both programs have proved to be successful and created strong interests among the population – by 2012 306 apartment buildings were renovated. Due to the unexpected high interest in the program aimed at private house owners, no more applications are currently accepted.</p> | |
| Eligible technologies | General information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For private houses the investments are aimed to support the purchasing and installation of solar energy plants and for the installation of geo- and hydrothermal heat pumps (§5 par. 7,9 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses). For apartment buildings supports are available to cover the costs of installing the necessary equipment to be able to use the energy produced by RES plants (§5 par.8 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment |



| | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| | | buildings). |
| | Aerothermal | |
| | Hydrothermal | Eligible. |
| | Biogas | |
| | Biomass | |
| | Geothermal energy | Eligible. |
| | Solar Thermal | Eligible. |
| Amount | The support available for private houses is between 1,000 and 30,000 Euros of the costs relating to the installation and purchasing of RES plants (§7 par. 1, 2 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses). | |
| Addressees | The investment supports are aimed at the owners of private houses and apartment buildings. The energy produced by RES plants purchased with the help of the investment support cannot be used for business purposes. | |
| Procedure | Process flow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kredex foundation will announce the launching of the support round on its website and in at least one nationwide newspaper at least 20 days prior to the start of the date when applications will be received (§9 par.2 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses). The request for the investment support must be submitted to the Kredex foundation that is responsible for the |



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| | | <p>processing and overview of applications. Kredex will have 30 days to assess the demand (§12 par.3 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the unexpectedly high interest in the program no more applications are currently accepted. |
| | Competent authority | The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Investment and Exportation foundation Kredex. |
| Flexibility mechanism | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | The costs of the program are born by the state. |
| | Consumers | |
| | Plant operator | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | The programme is financed by the government under the Green Investment Scheme. The government reinvests the money obtained from the sale of the Assigned Amount Units to promote the wider use of RES and support environmental projects. |



RES-H&C grid issues

Overview

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| Overview of grid issues | In Estonia, local authorities determine the conditions and procedure for the connection of heating plants to the grid. Furthermore, local authorities also determine the grid development obligation. When new heating production capacities are necessary, the grid operator is obligated to launch a public call for heat producers in order to determine the best offer. Priority is not given to the heat produced from RES sources. However, when possible, preference is given to heat produced from RES and CHP plants. The grid operator concludes contracts with heat producers for a period of maximum 12 years. |
| Connection to the grid | When connecting to the grid, heat produced from RES and CHP plants is not given priority access. The offer for connection is made by the grid operator to the most cost-efficient offer. Local authorities determine the conditions and procedure for the connection to the grid. |
| Use of the grid | The grid operator has to guarantee the measuring of heat entering the network. The heat producer has to coordinate the heat price with the Competition Authority separately for each heating district. In addition to the heat from the district heating network, the consumer is entitled to buy heat produced from RES from the producer. |
| Grid development | Local authorities determine the heat producers' development requirements and grid expansion obligations. |
| Statutory provisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Heating Act (Kaugkütteseadus RT I 2003, 25, 154 – District Heating Act) Bidding Rules for Heat Producers (Soojuse ostmiseks konkursi korraldamise kord ja pakkumiste hindamise meetoodika RT I, 01.07.2011, 12 - Rules for the organization of the bidding and evaluation of offers from heat producers) |



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Basic information on legal sources

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Name of legal source (original language) | Kaugkütteseadus RT I 2003, 25, 154 | Soojuse ostmiseks konkursi korraldamise kord ja pakkumiste hindamise metoodika RT I, 01.07.2011, 12 | |
| Name (English) | District Heating Act | Rules for the organization of the bidding and evaluation of offers from heat producers | |
| Abbreviated form | | Bidding Rules for Heat Producers | |
| Entry into force | 01.07.2003 | 04.07.2011 | |
| Last amended on | 01.01.2011 | | |
| Future amendments | 01.01.2014 | | |
| Purpose | The Act regulates the production, distribution and sale of heat as well as access to the district heating grid. | The regulation sets the rules for the organization of the bidding and evaluation of offers from heat producers. | |
| Relevance for renewable energy | The Act also regulates the production, distribution and sale of heat produced from RES, it equally regulates the access to the district heating grid. | This regulation sets the criteria for the organisation of the bidding launched by the grid operator in case new heating capacities are necessary. These rules also apply in the case of heat produced from RES. | |



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| Link to full text of legal source (original language) | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13349182 | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/101072011012 | |
| Link to full text of legal source (English) | http://www.legaltext.ee/et/andmebaas/tekst.asp?loc=text&dok=X70045K3&keel=en&pg=1&ptyyp=RT&tyyp=X&query=kau%FCtteseadus Consolidated version of the District Heating Act | | |



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Further information

| Institution (name) | Website | Name of contact person (optional) | Telephone number (head office) | E-mail (optional) |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications | http://www.mkm.ee | Jako Reinaste | +372 6256419 | Jako.Reinaste@mkm.ee |



Grid issues

Connection to the grid

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal sources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Heating Act • Bidding Rules for Heat Producers | |
| Contact Authority | mkm.ee | |
| Overview | <p>District heating infrastructure development is within the competence of local authorities, who also determine the conditions and procedure for the connection to the grid. When new heating production capacities are necessary the grid operator is obligated to launch a public call for heat producers in order to determine the best offer. When connecting to the grid, priority is not given to the heat produced from RES sources, but to the most cost-efficient offer, determined by the Competition Authority. However, according to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, due to various support schemes available for RES, the heat produced from RES sources or by CHP plants tends also to be the most cost-efficient way.</p> | |
| Procedure | Process flow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When new heating production capacities are necessary grid operator launches a public call for heat producers in order to determine the best offer (§ 14.1 par.2 District Heating Act). • Once the bidding has finished, the grid operator concludes a contract with the chosen producers for a period of maximum 12 years (§ 14.1 par.1 District Heating Act). |
| | Deadlines | <p>Starting from the publication of the call for offers in a nationwide newspaper, heat producers have 30 days to manifest their will to conclude a contract with the grid operator (§ 2 par.2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers). In case when several heat producers wish to conclude a contract, the bidding announcement shall be released and heat producers shall have at least 30 days to correspond to the offer (§ 9 par.3 Bidding</p> |



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| | | Rules for Heat Producers). |
| | Obligation to inform | The Grid operator is obligated to inform the Competition authority and to publish on its website and at least in one nationwide newspaper the conditions for concluding a contract (§ 2 par.2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers). If several heat producers manifest their will to conclude a contract, the grid operator is obligated to publish on its website the conditions for the bid (§ 4 par 1 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers). |
| Priority to renewable energy (qualitative criteria) | () Priority to renewable energy (x) Non-discrimination | Statutory law states that priority concerning access to the grid is given to the producer providing the best offer. However, when possible, heat produced from renewable energy sources should be preferred (§ 13. par 2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers). |
| Capacity limits (quantitative criteria) | | |
| Distribution of costs | The grid operator is entitled to charge a fee for the connection to the grid. The amount of the fee is decided by the grid operator. When fixing the size of the fee, the investments necessary for the connection, quality and environmental requirements as well as overall benefit assessment is taken into account (§ 12 par. 1,2,3 District Heating Act). | |
| | State | |
| | Consumers | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | Plant operator | When new heat production plant needs to be connected to the grid, the plant operator pays the costs (§ 12 par.1 District Heating Act). |
| | European Union | |



| | | |
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| | Distribution mechanism | |
|--|------------------------|--|



Use of the grid

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal sources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Heating Act | |
| Contact Authority | mkm.ee | |
| Overview | <p>The heat producer sells the heat either directly to the consumer or to the grid operator for redistribution. The grid operator has to guarantee the measuring of heat entering the network (§ 15 par.1 District Heating Act). The heat producer has to coordinate the heat price with the Competition Authority separately for each heating district (§ 9 par. 1 District Heating Act). In addition to the heat from the district heating network, the consumer is entitled to buy heat from RES from the producer (§ 5 par. 4.1 District Heating Act).</p> | |
| Procedure | Process flow | Statutory law provides no procedure rules concerning the use of the grid. |
| | Deadlines | |
| | Obligation to inform | |
| Priority to renewable energy (qualitative criteria) | (x) Priority to renewable energy () Non-discrimination | Statutory law states that priority concerning use of the grid is given to the producer providing the best offer. However, when possible, heat produced from renewable energy sources should be preferred (§ 13. par 2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers). |
| Curtailment | | |
| Distribution of costs | Statutory law provides no information on the distribution of costs concerning the use of the grid. | |
| | State | |
| | Consumers | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | Plant operator | |



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| | | |
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| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | |



Grid development

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal source | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Heating Act | |
| Contact Authority | mkm.ee | |
| Overview | <p>The grid operator is obligated to develop the grid so as to guarantee the connection to the grid and the continuous provision of services to all the consumers in its district (§ 14, par.1,2,3 District Heating Act). It is the competence of local authorities to determine the exact development requirements and grid expansion obligations for heat producers (§ 5 par. 6 District Heating Act).</p> | |
| Procedure | Process flow | |
| | Enforcement of claims | |
| | Deadlines | |
| | Obligation to inform | |
| Regulatory incentives for grid expansion and innovation | | |
| Distribution of costs | | |
| | State | |
| | Consumers | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | Plant operator | |
| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | |



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| Grid studies | |
|--------------|--|



RES-T support schemes

Summary of support schemes

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Overview | In Estonia there is currently no generally applicable support scheme to promote the use of renewable energy sources in the transport sector. However, a support scheme is put in place to promote the purchasing of electric cars that use power produced from renewable energy sources. According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications while the main investments are currently aimed at renewing the public transportation network, work is also done to develop a support scheme for the production of biogas. |
| Summary of support schemes | |
| Technologies | |
| Statutory provisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support Scheme for Electric Cars (Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Elektriautode toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 15.07.2011, 6 – Support Scheme for Electric Cars) |



Basic information on legal sources

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Name of legal source (original language) | Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Elektriautode toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 15.07.2011, 6 | | |
| Full name | Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Elektriautode toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord | | |
| Name (English) | Terms and procedure for using the green Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars” | | |
| Abbreviated form | Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars” | | |
| Entry into force | 18.07.2011 | | |
| Last amended on | 17.11.2012 | | |
| Future amendments | | | |
| Purpose | Regulating the support scheme concerning the purchase of electricity cars. | | |



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|--|--|--|--|
| Relevance for renewable energy | The act aims to encourage the use of renewable energies in the transport sector by promoting the use of electric cars. | | |
| Link to full text of legal source (original language) | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/115072011006 | | |
| Link to full text of legal source (English) | | | |



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Further information

| Institution (name) | Website | Name of contact person (optional) | Telephone number (head office) | E-mail (optional) |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications | http://www.mkm.ee | Jako Reinaste | +372 6256419 | Jako.Reinaste@mkm.ee |



Support schemes

Subsidy

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars” | |
| Contact Authority | mkm.ee | |
| Summary | <p>To facilitate the commissioning of electric cars, through the grant, the price of supported electric cars is brought to a comparable level with ordinary cars with similar parameters. The following actions are supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> purchase of an electric car, including the down-payment of leasing; procurement of one charger of electric car per one electric car, including the necessary installation work | |
| Eligible technologies | General information | |
| | Biofuels | |
| | Electricity | <p>To ensure the use of green energy by the purchased vehicles, receiving the grant includes an obligation to purchase green certificates (certificate of origin to certify the energy comes from RES) according to the kilometers of driving per year. The buyers of electric cars receiving the subsidy also automatically receive green certificates in the amount of 5MWh. If the driver exceeds the amount, additional green certificates need to be bought (§ 20 par.7 Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars”).</p> |



| | Hydrogen | |
|------------|--|---|
| Amount | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the grant amount for purchase of an electric car and down-payment of leasing is up to 50% of the purchase price of the electric car, but not more than 18,000 Euros for a person, who is not a VAT payer; the grant amount for purchase of an electric car for a VAT payer is 35% of eligible costs, but not more than 18,000 Euros per car; the maximum grant amount for purchasing of a charger of an electric car, including the installation work connected therewith, is 1000 Euros (§ 7 par.3,4 Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars”). <p>The total grant amount may not exceed 200,000 per applicant and 100,000 Euros per enterprise of road transport (§ 7 par.5 Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars”).</p> | |
| Addressees | <p>Grant applications may be submitted by Estonian citizens or foreigners living in Estonia, who have a long-term residence permit or permanent right of residence and legal persons registered in Estonia. The purchasing of an electric car is supported by Kredex, credit and export foundation, when it fulfills the criteria specified in § 7 par.1,2 Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars”.</p> | |
| Procedure | Process flow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An application shall be submitted to KredEx electronically (confirmed by digital signature) or by mail including all the necessary documents according to §11 “Grant for Electric Cars”. Kredex then has 15 working days to go through the application. The grant recipient shall submit an application for payment of the grant to KredEx within 3 (three) working days from mutual signing of the sales or leasing agreement of an electric car. Payment shall be made according to the terms provided in |



| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | <p>the decision of satisfaction of the application and agreement of allocation of the grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The investment scheme is available until the 30th November 2014. <p>The exact procedure is given in detail at: http://www.elmo.ee/en/Purchase-grant</p> |
| | Competent authority | The investment scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, applications are reviewed by foundation Kredex. |
| Flexibility mechanism | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | The costs of the programme are borne by the state. The financing takes place under the Green Investment Scheme, where the government invests the money obtained from the sales of the AAU-s in environmental projects. |
| | Consumers | |
| | Plant operator | |
| | Grid operator | |
| | European Union | |
| | Distribution mechanism | The program is financed by the sale of 10 million Assigned Amount units to the Mitsubishi Corporations by the Government. The money |



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| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | is reinvested in environmental projects and in order to promote the wider use of RES |
|--|--|--|



Policies

Summary of policies

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Overview | In Estonia, the development of specific regulatory measures concerning renewable energies is still in the process. Where no nationwide regulation exists, incentives are created on the local level through available investment supports and loans. |
| Summary of policies | The RES-H infrastructure development is in the capacity of the local authorities, however, nationwide investment supports are made available to promote the wider use of renewable energies. The R&D is mainly promoted through rounds-based grants, which are allocated based on the application. In the building sector currently no nationwide regulations or minimum standards apply. |
| Statutory provisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies (Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 - terms and procedure for the use of investment supports for the broader use of renewable energy sources for power production) |



Basic information on legal sources

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Name of legal source (original language) | Meetme "Taastuenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 | | |
| Full name | | | |
| Name (English) | Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of renewable energy sources for power production. | | |
| Abbreviated form | Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies. | | |
| Entry into force | 25.03.2008 | | |
| Last amended on | 12.11.2012 | | |
| Relevance for renewable energy | The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility concerning investments to promote the wider use of renewable energy in power production. | | |
| Link to full text of legal source (original language) | https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13164085?leiaKehtiv | | |



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| Link to full text of legal source (English) | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
|---|--|--|--|



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Further information

| Institution (name) | Website | Name of contact person (optional) | Telephone number (head office) | E-mail (optional) |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications | http://www.mkm.ee/ | Jako Reinaste | + 372 6256419 | jako.reinaste@mkm.ee |



Policy categories

Training programmes for Installers

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | | |
| Sector | None (Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport) | |
| Contact Authority | mkm.ee | |
| Description | At present, statutory law provides no provisions concerning training programs for installers. According to the Ministry of Economy and Communications until today the producers and importers of equipment have taken care of training installers. | |
| Addressees | | |
| Competent authority | | |
| Further information | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Private Financing | |
| | European Union | |



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| | | |
|--|--------|--|
| | Others | |
|--|--------|--|



Certification Programmes for RES installations

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | | |
| Sector | <i>None (Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport)</i> | |
| Contact Authority | <i>mkm.ee</i> | |
| Description | At present, the statutory law provides no measures concerning the certification programs for RES installations. According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the developing of certification systems and the designation of responsible authorities/organizations was supposed to be finished by the end of the year 2012. | |
| Addressees | | |
| Competent authority | | |
| Further information | | |
| Distribution of costs | State | |
| | Industry | |
| | System Producers | |
| | European Union | |



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| | | |
|--|--------|--|
| | Others | |
|--|--------|--|



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

| | |
|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | |
| Sector | <i>None (Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport)</i> |
| Contact Authority | - |
| Description | There are no nationwide regulations concerning the building obligations for public authorities. However, under the Green Investment Scheme, the government has directed funds obtained from the sales of the AAU-s to support energy efficient renovations and use of RES for heating and electricity production in public buildings. Under this scheme a total of 540 public buildings will be renovated. |
| Addressees | |
| Competent authority | |
| Further information | |



RD&D Policies

| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Sectors | Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport |
| Contact Authority | mkm.ee |
| Description | R&D programmes are not supported through nationwide support measures, but they form a part of the wider Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment from 2007-2013. In addition to technology development projects (in the field of applied research and product development) the financing here also includes programme supporting R&D programmes. The grants for projects are round based and allocated on the base of applications. |
| Addressees | |
| Competent authority | The use of support measures of activities are administrated by different ministries depending on the project (either Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Education and Research or Ministry of Agriculture) and coordinated by different foundations (Entreprise Estonia, Archimedes Foundation, Rural Development Foundations respectively). |
| Further information | Depending on the program, the funding sources vary. Usually one part is covered by the responsible ministry (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Agriculture) and the other from various investments and funds available. Entreprise Estonia: http://www.eas.ee/en/eas/overview |



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Estonian Research Council: <http://www2.archimedes.ee/teadus/index.php?lng=2>



RES-H building obligations

| | |
|--|---|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | |
| Sectors | <i>None (Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport)</i> |
| Contact Authority | <i>mkm.ee</i> |
| Description | At present the statutory law provides no minimum norms or building obligations concerning RES-H. Nevertheless, minimum requirements and obligations apply concerning energy efficiency in construction. |
| Obligated entities | |
| Competent authority | |
| Further information | |
| Obligation on regional level | |

Support of RES-H infrastructure

| | |
|--|--|
| Abbreviated form of legal source(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies |
| Sectors | Heating & Cooling |
| Contact Authority | kik.ee |
| Description | District heating infrastructure development is within the competence of local authorities. There is therefore no nationwide regulation concerning support for RES-H. However, there are investment funds available for the construction of cogeneration plants and for the reconstruction of boiler houses and infrastructure to make them operational for renewable energies. |
| Addressees | The investment support is addressed to legal persons, local municipalities, NGOs, companies and foundations. |
| Competent authority | Competent authority is the Ministry of Environment in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre. |
| Further information | Environmental Investment Centre webpage: http://www.kik.ee/ |