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## The ProSTO project policy paper

### SOLAR THERMAL ORDINANCES: MAKING A COMMITMENT TO LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

#### *A cost-effective energy policy for local authorities*

In conclusion, the project partners recommended that, to achieve the necessary and effective implementation of solar ordinances/renewable heat obligations throughout Europe:

#### **Government and public authorities at all levels should:**

- ◆ Strongly recommend and actively promote the introduction of solar ordinances/renewable heat obligations.

#### **The Commission should:**

- ◆ Strongly recommend and actively promote the introduction of solar ordinances/renewable heat obligations within the framework of the implementation of both the RES and the EPB directives.
- ◆ Undertake a review of Member States buildings strategies to assess complementary measures (e.g. financial incentives) necessary to improve the overall EPBD's effectiveness, including good practice. Ensure that there are adequate enforcement systems in place and assess regularly and independently whether enforcement is effective.

#### **The European Parliament should:**

- ◆ Ensure continuous supervision of the implementation and effectiveness of both the RES and the EPB directives.

#### **The Member States at a national level should:**

- ◆ Put in place the legal and regulatory framework for solar ordinances/renewable obligations, including flanking measures for quality control, installers' training/certification and incentives.
- ◆ Use solar obligations and renewable heat obligations as part of the implementation of both the RES and the EPB directives.
- ◆ Empower and involve regional and local authorities in implementing and adapting renewable solar obligations adopted at national level.
- ◆ Provide incentives or rewards for new buildings or renovations, when national or regional building standards are surpassed.
- ◆ Implement demonstration projects for net zero energy requirements or net zero carbon buildings, and lead by example when refurbishing existing buildings.
- ◆ Support the STO with a communication campaign targeting professionals and end users on the principles and benefits of solar thermal systems.

With the adoption and implementation of both the RES and EPB directives, renewable heat and energy efficiency will be at the forefront of the political scene at the European, national or local level. The ProSTO consortium is convinced that now is the right time for member states and the EU to follow the pioneers' leading examples and actually implement the simplest and most effective policy measure: **The solar thermal ordinance.**

The full paper is available to download at [www.solarordinances.eu](http://www.solarordinances.eu)



## THE WORKSHOPS

### Future

**A workshop entitled “The Contribution of Renewable Heating and Cooling Technologies to Smart Cities” is being scheduled for 9 February 2011 in Brussels.**

This is being organized by the Renewable Heating & Cooling Platform and within the framework of the Industrial Initiative “Smart Cities and Regions” which is included in the SET-Plan and aims at positioning engaged cities at the forefront of the development of low carbon economy. For renewable heating and cooling technologies, this initiative represents an interesting opportunity for combining large scale deployment of renewable energy sources. The objective of this workshop is to identify specific proposals for renewable heating and cooling projects to be implemented under the Smart Cities initiative.

More information: [www.rhc-platform.org](http://www.rhc-platform.org)

### Past

The **proSTO** workshop

**29 October 2010, Committee of the Regions, Brussels**

**Solar thermal ordinances = making a commitment to local sustainable energy.**

The programme for this workshop included general presentations on building codes and energy efficiency in Europe as well as case studies illustrating the experience of some cities in connection with solar thermal ordinances:

- ◆ The role of energy efficient buildings in EU's energy strategy – Effective measures to ensure higher standards at national level - *Andoni Hidalgo, Eurima, Brussels*
- ◆ How to support local administrations on the way towards solar building codes: Outcomes of the ProSTO project - *Riccardo Battisti, Ambiente Italia, Italy*
- ◆ Concrete activities on the way towards a solar thermal ordinance in the Lazio region - *Representatives from several municipalities of the Lazio region, Italy*
- ◆ ProSTO Blueprint: Step by step towards a solar building code - *Thomas Pauschinger, Solites, Germany*
- ◆ 1998-2010: Assessment of the Barcelona solar ordinance - *Fermín Jiménez, Agència d'Energia de Barcelona, Spain*
- ◆ The role of local and regional authorities in future environmental policies - *Michel Lebrun, (BE/EPP), Member of the Parliament of the French Community, Belgium - Rapporteur Outlook opinion on the future EU Energy Action Plan, Committee of the Regions*
- ◆ The new local solar ordinance in Murcia - *Fernando Sanchez Lara, City of Murcia, Spain*
- ◆ Energy requirements in the city of Stuttgart - *Nino Schäfer, Municipality of Stuttgart, Germany*
- ◆ Lisboa: Solar thermal ordinances in protected areas - *Joana Fernandes, Lisboa e-Nova, Portugal*

All **presentations** can be downloaded on the ProSTO website: [www.solarordinances.eu](http://www.solarordinances.eu)



## THE WEBINAR

### Setting up the right incentives for boosting solar thermal in Europe 30 November, 15.00 -16.30 (CET)

With both the Renewable Energy and the European Performance of Buildings Directives paving the way for gradual phase-in of decentralized renewable energy in buildings, solar thermal systems will play a key role in providing heating and cooling for buildings and industry applications.

In this context, public support policies still have a strong impact on the solar thermal market development. Financial incentive schemes for solar thermal can be as various as direct grants (e.g. German Market Stimulation Programme), tax reductions (e.g. income tax break in France), loans at reduced rates or energy efficiency certificates.

During this webinar, several speakers presented different models of incentives in Europe and help determine the success factors for more efficient public support policies across Europe:

- ◆ Incentive schemes for solar thermal and renewable heat in Europe: an overview of the different types of support programmes available in different European countries  
*Xavier Noyon, European Solar Thermal Industry Federation (ESTIF), Belgium*
- ◆ The economic impact of the German Market Stimulation Programme (MAP)  
*Undine Ziller, AEE, Germany*
- ◆ Thermal regulations and energy performance of buildings - the French example  
*Sylvain Rolland, ENERPLAN, France*
- ◆ Introduction to the Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme in the UK  
*Jake Salisbury, Solar Trade Association (STA), United Kingdom*
- ◆ Your toolbox to implement a solar thermal ordinance in Europe  
*Thomas Pauschinger, Solites, Germany*

All these **presentations** are available to download at [www.solarordinances.eu](http://www.solarordinances.eu)

## Spain

### Murcia

**Workshop:  
development and  
implementation of  
solar thermal  
ordinances**



**O**n 16 November 2010 the city of Murcia organized a workshop to publish the results of the ProSTO project. Murcia's Solar thermal ordinance was approved in 2008. Over the past two years, the main task of the technicians involved in ProSTO has been to monitor the sector.

The main flanking measure used to monitor the solar thermal sector, has been to audit the performance of 15 existing solar thermal systems installed in private buildings/businesses. Most of these have been in operation for over five years. The aim of this flanking measure was to send a message to the market, citizens, installers, builders, that the public authority is controlling quality as well as the fulfilment of standards and legal requirements set by the local regulation in the STO.

An invitation was sent to all the Murcia region municipalities, and some national networks in which the city of Murcia is involved. The conference started with a presentation from Murcia dealing with the text of the ordinance. Then, BIONET, technical partner supporting Murcia in the project PROSTO, presented the web tools developed by the project partners [www.solarordinances.eu](http://www.solarordinances.eu). This was followed by a review of solar thermal facilities by the Local Energy Agency of Murcia.. The final presentation was from the Regional Agency for Energy; this dealt with the use of solar thermal for heating swimming pools and cooling through absorption cycles.

**Participate in the 5<sup>th</sup> European Solar Thermal Energy Conference (ESTEC 2011) in Marseille on 20 and 21 October 2011. Over 500 delegates are expected at this definitive event for the solar thermal industry.**

ESTEC is a biennial international conference bringing together key players in the solar thermal sector. It is the meeting place for sharing the latest information on market trends, political and regulatory developments as well as on innovations. In these uncertain economic times, ESTEC is the ideal forum to discuss recent developments in Europe and glimpse at the promising outlook for global growth.

The 5<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Solar Thermal – ESTEC 2011 - is organized by ESTIF and ENERPLAN with the support of ADEME. In 2009, over 400 participants from 43 different countries attended ESTEC in Munich (Germany).

More information: [www.estec2011.org](http://www.estec2011.org)



## Germany Stuttgart

**Germany's Renewable Heat Law EEWärmeG will be modified to comply with the EU 2009/28/EG Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources – Public authorities will act as role models**



Following a government's decision in September 2010, the German national energy laws will be amended in line with the EU Directive 2009/28/EC.

As a consequence of this decision the German laws regarding the use of energy from renewable sources will be amended. For ProSTO in particular, the adjustment of the German Renewable Heat Law EEWärmeG is most interesting.

According to the concept of the new EEWärmeG law, municipalities must act as role models. This means that for new public buildings and major refurbishment of public buildings, the demand for heating and cooling energy must be covered with 15% renewable energies.

To offset this requirement, the public authority itself, the building owner or a third party may operate a solar thermal plant on the roof of a public building, delivering solar heat to other buildings in the neighbourhood. If this option is chosen, a solar collector area of 0.06 m<sup>2</sup> per m<sup>2</sup> of building area must be

installed and only the municipality can certify that this plant meets the obligation.

For both, existing public and new private buildings, the heating and cooling energy demand may be met with district heating and cooling. Thereby a major part of the energy has to be produced by renewable energies (or 50 % by CHP, or 50 % by usage of waste heat).

During a ProSTO workshop in November 2010 in

Stuttgart, the new legal framework was also discussed. The workshop was organized for municipalities and public utilities representatives. The audience showed great interest in the numerous new opportunities offered for the development and promotion of solar thermal in the public sector .

Further information at:  
[http://www.bmu.de/erneuerbare\\_energien/downloads/doc/46475.php](http://www.bmu.de/erneuerbare_energien/downloads/doc/46475.php)

**Solarthermie für die erneuerbare Energieversorgung von Städten und Kommunen**

proSTO

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**Please click on the picture to download the ProSTO flyer in German**



**In 2011 - save these dates!**

- ◆ **10 February, Berlin - SMEThermal 2011**  
The [2nd SMEThermal](#) will confirm the conference as the leading international event dedicated exclusively to the manufacturing of solar thermal absorbers, collectors and tanks.
- ◆ **5 & 6 May, Budapest - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the Renewable Heating & Cooling Platform,**  
The second conference of the Renewable Heating & Cooling Platform will take place in Budapest, during the Hungarian presidency of the EU.
- ◆ **24 & 25 February, Rome - Conferenza dell'Industria Solare - Italia 2011, [CIS-IT 2011](#)**
- ◆ **2 to 4 March, Wels/Austria - World Sustainable Energy Days 2011 - [WSED](#)**  
This conference offers a combination of events on sustainable energy production and use, covering energy efficiency and renewable energy sources for buildings, industry and transport.
- ◆ **20 & 21 October, Marseille/France - 5th European Solar Thermal Energy Conference - [ESTEC 2001](#)**  
This edition will take place in Marseille (France) and gather the sector's key stakeholders. The focus will be on solar thermal markets in Southern Europe and along the Mediterranean shores.

**proSTO**

**In the press - 2010**

- |                |                 |          |  |
|----------------|-----------------|----------|--|
| ◆ 17.11.10     | Eco dalle Città | Italy    | Incentivi per il solare termico in Europa  |
| ◆ Nov/Dec 2010 | Climatização    | Portugal | ProSTO - Baixa Pombalina vai ter Carta de Poencial de integração de Sistemas Solares |

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**The Consortium**

