

Renewable Heat Law Baden-Württemberg (EWärmeG BW)

Summary

In November 2007 the parliament of the state of Baden-Württemberg approved its Erneuerbare-Wärme-Gesetz Baden-Württemberg (Renewable Heat Law Baden-Württemberg). Initially it affects only new residential buildings started after 1. April 2008, for which house builders are obliged to cover 20 % of the yearly heat demand with renewable heat sources. Beside the use of solar thermal, geothermal, biomass (including biooil and biogas) and ground coupled heat pumps the law also foresees alternative measures such as improved house insulation, co-generators or the connection to district heating networks fed by RES or co-generators. Starting from 1. January 2010 the law will also affect existing residential buildings, which, in the case of a modernization of the central heating system have to reach a share of renewable heat of 10 % of the yearly heat demand. The regulation of this law for new buildings was replaced by federal law EEWärmeG (see separate case study) on 1 January 2009.



Ordinance Facts

Ordinance title	Erneuerbare-Wärme-Gesetz Baden-Württemberg (EWärmeG BW)
Type of ordinance	renewable heat law
Starting date	1. April 2008, 1. January 2010 for existing buildings
Duration	unlimited
Geographical area	Federal State of Baden-Württemberg, Germany
No. of inhabitants	11 Mio, 36.000 km ²
Scope	new-build residential buildings and residential homes, existing buildings in the moment of a modernizations of the heating system
Technology priorities	solar thermal, heat pumps, biooils, biogas, wood
Size of the solar heating system required	0,04 m ² collector area per m ² of living area of the building
Alternative measures	increased insulation of buildings, CHP, district heating by RES of CHP, PV
Executing authority	building authorities on communal or district level competent for building permits
Execution mechanism	The compliance with the law is to be certified by an authorized expert and shall be presented to the competent building authority within 3 months after taking in operation of the heating system

Development and Implementation

Background	The lion's share of Germany's end energy consumption is used for heating and cooling of buildings. The national goal in this sector is a contribution of 14 % by RES, whereas the today's share is only 6 %. It is recognized that subsidies and incentives are helpful but not sufficient. After a controversial discussion at national level between heat-feed-in-tariffs and obligation models, BW was the first state taking initiative for implementing its renewable heat law.
Objectives	climate and environmental protection; sustainable energy supply in BW; increase of the share of RES within the heat supply in BW; planning security for the implementation of RES heat technologies; lower cost for the end-users
Process	The law was developed in a top-down approach, initiated by political decision makers. Hearings have been carried out with: association of communes, housing companies, manufacturers, handicraft, architects, engineers, consumers, welfare, RE suppliers, fossil fuel enterprises, unions and environmental organizations. More than 80 positions were presented and incorporated in the law. Almost all of them confirmed the overall objective of the law.
Timing	The law was enacted on 7. November 2007. The preparation phase, including three rounds of hearings had an approximate duration of 6 months.
Quality schemes product	no
Quality schemes installation	no
Quality schemes other	no
Flanking measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The law is promoted through press releases and an information campaign • BW runs numerous promotion initiatives regarding RES/RUE in buildings
Supervision	Random inspections are foreseen
Sanctioning fees	yes, 50.000-100.000 €
Costs for implementing	approx. 1.1 Mio € per year

Monitoring and Results

Monitoring	Copies of all certificates are centrally collected by the Ministry for the Environment for the purpose of the evaluation of the law impact.
Quantitative results	The total building stock of BW comprises 2.2 Mio residential buildings. The yearly end energy demand for heating these buildings is approx. 72 Mrd kWh (171 kWh/m ² living area) creating 19 Mio t of CO ₂ emission. The expected impact of the law is to reduce these emissions by 10 %.
Costs borne by the enduser	20 to 34 € per m ² of living
Effects on other sectors	not yet available
Communication	not yet available
Future outlook	An evaluation of the law impact is planned for April 2011.

Lessons Learned

Barriers faced and overcome	<p>In 2008 the federal parliament Bundestag decided on the federal law EEWärmeG (see separate case study). The initial plan for this law was to exempt obligatory measures from federal funding. As there are obligatory measures for existing buildings in Baden-Württemberg, these house owners would be disadvantaged to house owners in other regions of Germany. Finally this regulation was not enacted.</p> <p>The regulation of regional EWärmeG for new buildings was replaced by federal law EEWärmeG (see separate case study) on 1 January 2009.</p>
Success factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • simple and understandable approach of the law • compact preparation phase of approx. 6 months • freedom of choice between cost-effective alternatives • participated process of hearings with the associations
Potential for improvement	not yet available
Recommendations	Early coordination of legislation projects of different legislative bodies, e.g. on regional and federal level, is recommendable.
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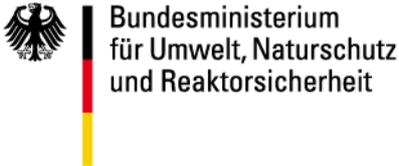
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- Downloads:
- [Full text of the law \(Nov. 2007, DE\)](#)
 - [Technical sheet for solar heating systems \(DE\)](#)
 - [Infolyer \(DE\)](#)

Link: [Website of Renewable Heat Law Baden-Württemberg](#)

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