

## **Allocating solar thermal district heat to new buildings in order to fulfill the German Renewable Heat Law Germany**

### **Responsible organization**

Solites - Steinbeis Research Institute for Solar and Sustainable Thermal Energy Systems

### **Date of last information update**

05.12.2012

### **Model description**

The model, initiated by Stadtwerke Crailsheim, Germany, has not been implemented yet as there are some legal questions to solve first.

It is linked to the German renewable energies law EEWärmeG defining the share of renewable energy supply in a new building.

Stadtwerke Crailsheim operates the biggest solar thermal plant in Germany, feeding into the district heating net. To comply with the German law EEWärmeG about renewable energies in new buildings, an industry constructing a new building in Crailsheim has to have a certain amount of its heat and hot water produced with solar thermal. The Stadtwerke Crailsheim's approach is to sell them certificates, if the new building is connected to the district heating net, stating that a certain amount of the solar heat from the net is allocated to this particular building. It would enable the Stadtwerke to sell more heat and avoid the industry the costs of installing solar collectors.

It is still not sure that this will be accepted as compliance with the EEWärmeG law.

Stadtwerke Crailsheim as the district heating net and solar plant operator would be initiator and manager of the model and sell heat, solar heat, and certificates to the industries, who would then comply with the law's (EEWärmeG) requirements for new buildings.

**Swot analysis**

Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New service for heat suppliers leading to new large collector fields</li> <li>• Advantage for the customer, who would avoid to operate a plant and to take care of compliance with the EEWärmeG law</li> </ul>
Weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocating the solar heat to one or few industrial clients in particular can penalise the other clients because the solar heat could not be considered in the energy mix of the district heating net anymore, making a connection to the district heating net less interesting for other new customers.</li> </ul>
Opportunities	
Threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal clarification if such a measure can be considered as fulfilment of the law because according to the law, the renewable energy production has to be localized.</li> </ul>
Improvements/recommendations/lessons learned	

**Replication potential of the model**

To replicate this model, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

- Fulfilment of the RES heat law possible
- District heating already installed
- Connected industry enterprises
- RES shares in the district heating energy mix

The district heating operator must already have a renewable energy source integrated in its energy mix, to be able to sell this heat to particular customers.