

# Energy and Climate

## Strategy 2025

### of Styria/Austria





## Energy Strategy of Styria 2025

Styria; one of the Austrian provinces with a population of 1.2 million people and a surface of 16.000 km<sup>2</sup>, is the region of renewable energies: more than 20 per cent of the energy use is covered by hydropower, biomass and solar energy, thus enabling this region to fulfil the renewable energy part of the 20-20-20 goal today already. Since the challenge of future sustainable and affordable energy supply is really big the Styrian Energy Commissioner has developed an ambitious “**Energy Strategy 2025**” which has been approved by the Styrian Government, continuing the tradition of energy plans and strategies since 1984, when Styria had been the first European region to do so.

The **Energy Strategy 2025** provides activities in 5 main fields

- energy efficiency and energy saving,
- renewable energies,
- district heating and cogeneration,
- energy infrastructure, space planning and mobility,
- research and education, energy consulting.

Every year there will be an „**Action Plan**“, helping to achieve the ambitious goals. Eight measures are mentioned in the “**Action Plan 2010**”, like

- another 90.000 m<sup>2</sup> of thermal solar panels (Styria has now 550.000 m<sup>2</sup>) and 2 MW photovoltaic installations,
- another 30 district heating systems based on biomass (130 d. h. Systems with 2 to 25 MW power and more than 320 smaller ones are already working),
- installation of a model region for e-mobility, a teamwork of the Styrian Government, MAGNA, the Technical University of Graz and several big energy suppliers.

Following the **Energy Strategy**, in 2025 Styria should have 34 per cent renewable energies, mainly hydropower (12 %), biomass (16%), solar energy (4%), and wind energy (4%), others like geothermal energy will not play a significant role. High efficiency buildings (nearly zero energy building standard will be mandatory) and efficient industrial processes as well as shifting individual traffic to public transportation will allow to stop the rising energy consumption and give a sustainable development a realistic chance.

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## Climate Protection Plan

2008 the Styrian Parliament decided to develop a Climate Protection Plan. Three important Styrian Research Institutions (Wegener Center, Technical University Graz, Joanneum Research) were assigned to make a special plan. In the end of June 2010 the Climate Protection Plan Styria will be finished and implemented with the beginning of 2011. The basic goal is to reduce the greenhouse gas - emissions till 2020 under 20%.

Since 2009 a lot of engaged scientists work together for this strategy, which is accompanied by a process of Stakeholders and an internal project – with the name **“klimark”**.

### Stakeholder Process

34 representatives from chamber of commerce, chamber of agriculture, industrial federation, league of municipalities, energy industry, public transports and politicians are invited to bring in their experience and positions in case of the strategies, measures and implementation of the Styrian Climate Protection Plan.

### Internal Project – klimark

30 representatives from the Styrian administration check the reports concerning other aims, guidelines or strategies of the Styrian Government. The project members will prepare the implementation of concrete climate protection measures for the administration and help to develop an effective monitoring system.

### Climate Protection Coordinator

Since May 2009 the new position of Climate Protection Coordinator is implemented at the Styrian Administration. The main topics are:

- to inform the Styrian Government in terms of climate mitigation and adaptation
- to develop climate protection plan
- to implement measures and monitoring system
- to report about Styrian climate protection activities and successes
- to work together with regional stakeholder, NGOs and interested public people

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## New (e-) mobility in Styria

Of course, Styria is not the region of total electric mobility, but we try hard. In 2009 subsidies for electric vehicles had been introduced and after one year 1.700 more e-bikes, 100 more e-scooters and some e-cars were running. In order to accelerate the development of e-mobility and above that of a “new mobility”, an integrative concept is elaborated including

- Optimisation of multimodal transport: A rail system and biofuel driven busses (already covering 95 % of the bus stock in Graz) connecting the city of Graz to the neighbouring urban agglomerations will be combined with a car sharing and car rental model (with a growing share of e-cars) allowing private persons to renounce to their individual vehicles, thus also lowering the micro dust emissions as well as consumption of fossil fuels.
- Use of renewable energies for transport: E-mobility has to start right off using renewable energies. Therefore the Styrian Government is supporting cogeneration on the basis of biomass as well as photovoltaic systems in order to cover the growing demand of e-vehicles for electricity only by renewable energy sources.
- Mobility by alternative services: Getting from A to B can be done using public or private transport – or something in between: special services shall replace individual short distance traffic.

Competent partners, already organised as “Austrian Mobile Power”, are developing an integrated concept for e-mobility which can be an important part of the “new mobility”. This concept covers the whole chain from the electric vehicle, electric power stations, an intelligent (smart) grid with smart metering the cogeneration plants and hydropower including storage in lakes as well as in every individual e-car:

- MAGNA STEYR, MAGNA Powertrain and MAGNA Electronics are able to provide single components and systems as well as complete cars;
- AVL is a worldwide player concerning traction systems and motors and is concentrating on the optimisation of batteries and the development of new systems like range extenders: the AVL Pure Range Extender allows an expansion of the usual small range of electric vehicles to distances of several hundred kilometers;
- Energie Steiermark is the biggest energy supplier in Styria traditionally using hydropower to provide electricity and biomass for district heating and is more and more engaged in the use of renewable energies, especially photovoltaic and wind energy.
- Else, the Technical University of Graz, several energy suppliers and companies as well as the Styrian Government are involved.

