



### Book tips:

- **Viola Köster:** "Umwelt NGOs. Über Wirkungen und Nebenwirkungen ihrer Professionalisierung". (Environmental NGOs. About effects and side effects of their professionalisation: Language: German)
- **André Pilz:** Die Lieder - das Töten. Ein spannender Roman über die möglichen Auswirkungen der Gefahren von Atomkraftwerken. (The songs - the killing. A roman about the effects of atom energy: Language: German)
- **Jürgen Eiselt:** "Dezentrale Energiewende- Chancen und Herausforderungen. (Peripheral energy transition – Chances and challenges: Language: German)

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# VIS NOVA



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## Project Partner news

### Tulln/ Austria

First photovoltaic plant in the City of Tulln is connected to the grid.

After nearly two years of reparation- and planning time on 22<sup>nd</sup> November the first photovoltaic plant in the city of Tulln was connected to the public grid: The power output of the plant on the roof of the newly built 8. play school in the Konrad Lorenz road corresponds to the consumption of more than 4 households. In the future, more buildings of the municipality are equipped with photovoltaic systems.

### Further installations planned

When completed also other public buildings are equipped with PV panels:

- Indoor swimming pool with porch of the ice rink and Sports hall of the Polytechnic School: 130 kWp
- Construction Yard: 150 kWp
- Parking deck Frauentorgasse: 65 kWp
- Sewage treatment plant: 75 kWp
- Elementary School II with Sports hall (currently under construction): 50 kWp

All plants will be built in 2013 or at the latest 2014, the solar generated power of about 485.000 kWh per year corresponds to the consumption of more than 140 households. The payback is guaranteed in the next 13 years, funded by the feed-in tariff.

What is kWp?

kWp stands for kilowatt peak and is a common name in the field of photovoltaics for electrical power (Unit: Watt) of solar cells. This information is not the nominal or maximum power of the solar modules, but the electrical power output under standard test conditions.

For more news, please check our website:

[http://www.vis-nova.eu/news.php?cont\\_id=1&scr1=143&la=en](http://www.vis-nova.eu/news.php?cont_id=1&scr1=143&la=en)





## International news

**15.12.2012 The Danish Parliament is currently discussing an amendment of the Danish legislation for renewable energy: In particular regarding net metering for photovoltaics and small wind turbines.** SolarSuperState Association calls on Denmark to continue its successful historical support since the 1980s for renewables. The SolarSuperState Association awards the annual SolarSuperState Prize to states for cumulative installed capacity per capita of wind energy and photovoltaics. The SolarSuperState Association furthers 100 % renewable energy economies at state level and lower administrative entity levels. Internationally, the Danish net metering scheme is seen as a very effective and non-bureaucratic tariff scheme which is based on fostering self-supply from small wind and photovoltaics. In case that the owner of the photovoltaic installation or small wind turbine does not consume the electricity at the moment of its generation, the electricity is fed into the public grid and the household's electricity net meter turns backwards.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com>

## International news

**03.01.2013 Experts from across the solar industry met in China:** For the second time the Intercontinental Hotel Beichen in Beijing played host to the Intersolar China Conference, a valuable platform for the Asian solar markets of the future, from December 11-13, 2012. 69 speakers from around the world discussed current developments in the solar industry in front of 549 Chinese and international conference attendees. Developments within the Chinese market formed the central theme of the event and the conference focused on innovative technologies and trends in photovoltaics and solar thermal technologies. Around 70 expert presentations shed light on the most recent developments in the areas of energy storage, solar cities, large-scale photovoltaic plants, PV production and recycling, and a networking event on the first day of the conference allowed attendees to engage in intensive expert discussions. Both the organizers and attendees were extremely satisfied with the success of the Intersolar China Conference 2012, which saw an increase in attendees of 17% in comparison to the previous year.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com/News,Experiments+from+across+the+solar+industry+met+in+China,80,a24216.html>



**05.01.2013 How shrubs are reducing the positive contribution of peatlands to climate:** For the first time, a group of scientists from WSL and EPFL described why on the long run peatlands may not be able to continue fulfilling their role as the most effective carbon stocking ecosystems. They studied the mechanisms behind a phenomenon known as shrub encroachment of peatlands: Complex plant-microbe interactions are at the root of this worldwide vegetation change. The findings have been published online today in Nature Climate Change. Peatlands (bogs, turf moors) are among the most important ecosystems worldwide for the storage of atmospheric carbon and thus for containing the climate warming process. In the last 30 to 50 years the peat (Sphagnum) mosses, whose decay produces the peat (turf), have come under pressure by vascular plants, mostly small shrubs.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com/News,How+shrubs+are+reducing+the+positive+contribution+of+peatlands+to+climate,80,a24223.html>

**More ice loss through snowfall on Antarctica:** Stronger snowfall increases future ice discharge from Antarctica. Global warming leads to more precipitation as warmer air holds more moisture – hence earlier research suggested the Antarctic ice sheet might grow under climate change. Now a study published in Nature shows that a lot of the ice gain due to increased snowfall is countered by an acceleration of ice-flow to the ocean. Thus Antarctica's contribution to global sea-level rise is probably greater than hitherto estimated, the team of authors from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) concludes. "Between 30 and 65 percent of the ice gain due to enhanced snowfall in Antarctica is counterbalanced by enhanced ice loss along the coastline," says lead-author Ricarda Winkelmann. For the first time, an ensemble of ice-physics simulations shows that future ice discharge is increased up to three times because of additional precipitation in Antarctica under global warming.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com>

## Congresses & exhibitions

**18.01.2013- 27.01.2013/ Berlin:** Fair nature.tec in frame of the international green week in Berlin.

**07.02.2013-09.02.2013/ Stuttgart:** Conference: "Clean Energy Building"

**20.02 2013- 22.02.2013/Freren:** Conference: Administration and documentation for biogas plants.

**01.03.2013- 03.03.2013/Wels:** International fair for energy efficiency and eco energy.

**25.04.2013- 27.04.2013/Budapest** RENEXPO Central Europe-7. International Energy Trade/fair.

**25.09.2013- 27.09.2013/Budapest** ÖKOINDUSTRIA- International Environmental Industry, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Source Trade.

For further information contact Fachverband BIOGAS e.V. under:

[http://www.biogas.org/edcom/webfvb.nsf/id/DE\\_Termine\\_Sortiert](http://www.biogas.org/edcom/webfvb.nsf/id/DE_Termine_Sortiert)



## International news

**Shell study sees great potential for biofuels Subsidy programme needed for 2nd generation:** The contribution of biofuels to fuel supply could increase substantially in the medium to long term. In Germany alone, locally produced biofuels could meet 20% of demand by 2030 and as much as 70% of the massively reduced demand by 2050. But that is dependent on ensuring the sustainability of biofuels, reducing the production costs of advanced biofuels, and ensuring that the biofuels are compatible with the means of transport for which they are intended. Those are the findings of the 1st Shell Biofuel Study, entitled "After Super E10 – What role for biofuels?", which Shell has prepared together with the International Institute for Sustainability Analysis and Strategy (IINAS) and the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research (IFEU), Heidelberg. Biofuels are the most important alternative energy source in transport today – accounting for 5.6% of fuel consumption in Germany, 4.5% in Europe, and more than 2% worldwide.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com/Renewable+Energies.Shell+study+sees+great+potential+for+biofuels+Subsidy+programme+needed+for+2nd+generation,60,a23399.html>

## International news

**07.01.2013 Manifesto for a resource efficient Europe:** In a world with growing pressures on resources and the environment, the EU has no choice but to go for the transition to a resource-efficient and ultimately regenerative circular economy. Our future jobs and competitiveness, as a major importer of resources, are dependent on our ability to get more added values, and achieve overall decoupling, through a systemic change in the use and recovery of resources in the economy. According to the OECD, this could lead to steady economic growth with business opportunities across the whole economy. Europe is taking important decisions on strengthening economic and monetary union. Against this background, the European Resource Efficiency Platform is calling on business, labour and civil society leaders to support resource efficiency and the transformation to a circular economy and society now because this offers a path out of the current crisis towards a reindustrialisation of the European economy on the basis of resource-efficient growth that will last.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com/News,MAN IFESTO+FOR+A+RESOURCE-EFFICIENT+EUROPE,80,a24248.html>



**23.01.2013 Japan announced the construction of a gigantic offshore wind farm off the coast of Fukushima:** The platforms to be used will be able to withstand earthquakes. Japan plans to build the world's largest offshore wind farm according to a report by the UPI. Though the project is still just a proposal, 143 wind turbines with a total capacity of one gigawatt would be installed 10 miles off the coast of Fukushima. Each turbine would therefore have a capacity of around six megawatts, meaning that some of the largest turbines currently made would be used. The project will obviously not only draw interest for its size, but also its location – close to where the earthquake occurred that destroyed the Daiichi nuclear plant in March 2011. But despite the offshore wind farm's size, it will not come close to replacing the capacity of the six reactors at Daiichi, which had a cumulative capacity of 4.7 gigawatts. Offshore wind farms can be expected to run with a capacity factor of around 40 percent in good locations, so a one gigawatt offshore wind farm would produce around 400 megawatts of power on the average around the clock.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com>

## National news

**14.12.2012 Greenpeace calls the SPD at the national party to disembark the heating with coals.** 35 Greenpeace activists protest against the coal policy at the national party of the SPD in Hannover. Greenpeace furthers SPD to stop her coal policy and to deploy renewable energies.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com/Aktuelle+News.Genug+Kohle+gescheffelt-Herr+Steinbrueck!,6,a24068.html>

**16.12.2012 Germany's target, to be one of the most energy efficiency economies of the world, approached a step in 2012:** It requires only 5,5 Gigajoule primary energy to produce a thousand Euro worth of goods and services. A short time after the German reunification the value was over 8 GJ. That refers the AG energy balances in her actual calculations at the development of the energy efficiency in Germany.

[www.sonnenseite.com](http://www.sonnenseite.com)