Support Programme for environmentally friendly pellet heating in Switzerland

The cylindrical wood pellets are up to 4 centimetres long and have a diameter of 0.6 centimetres. Photo: www.proPellets.ch

The myclimate support programme promotes the replacement of old oil or natural gas heating with fully automated pellet heating. Property owners can receive funding for building heating from the programme at locations in Switzerland where there is currently no financial support from the federal, cantonal or local government.

In Switzerland, oil and gas heating systems for room heating and warm water, which are in need of modernising, are generally replaced by other heating systems that run on fossil fuels. From a climate protection perspective, replacing the old heating system with automated pellet heating or another non-fossil technology would be a better choice. This support programme aims to reduce the high investment costs needed for pellet heating. The climate protection programme was developed with the support of proPellets.ch and Holzenergie Schweiz and can be implemented thanks to the financial contributions of the KliK Foundation. The amount of the subsidy is calculated by myclimate on the basis of the previous yearly energy consumption (adjusted for climatic conditions) and corresponds to 18 centimes per kilowatt hour. This corresponds to approximately 360 francs per kilowatt of installed capacity, if the pellet heating system is properly dimensioned. The conversion from fossil-fuel driven to renewable heat production using wood reduces the amount of greenhouse gas emissions generated by heating.

How does a pellet heating system work?

Pellet heating systems are fully automated wood heating systems. During the production of pellets, dried sawdust and wood shavings from the manufacturing industry are compressed into cylindrical rods. Two kilograms of pellets contain about the same energy as a litre of heating oil or a cubic metre of natural gas. The pellets are delivered by tanker and kept in the buildings storage, which is often located in the former oil tank room. From there the fuel is automatically transported into the combustion
chamber by means of a conveyor or suction system. The burning provides warmth for room heating and the production of warm water, and leaves behind a small amount of ash. The incorporation of a buffer tank allows for needs-based control of heat distribution to users.

Register now!

The support programme is open to private households, businesses and industry (no process heating), provided that the admission criteria in the registration form are met. Only fully automated central heating systems up to 70 kW\textsubscript{th} (thermal input) with a seal of quality from Holzenergie Schweiz, which are not eligible for state financial support, will be subsidised. You can find out in which cantons state funding is available on the Energiefranken website. Please see the registration form for details of the application process:

1. Receive an offer including a signed performance guarantee from Energie Schweiz from the installation or planning company.
2. Fill out, sign and send the online registration form to myclimate with any necessary supporting documentation before commissioning the installation.
3. After receiving provisional funding approval from myclimate, commission the installation company to install the pellet heating system.
4. Submit the receipts for the purchase, installation and activation of the pellet heating system to myclimate and receive the subsidy contribution.
5. At any point during a minimum of two years following the commissioning of the boiler, you must provide myclimate with documented proof of pellet consumption upon request.

Contact

Do you have any questions? Don't hesitate to send us an email (pellets@myclimate.org) or give us a call (+41 44 500 43 50).

This programme contributes to 2 SDGs:

- 2,200 MWh of renewable heat will be generated annually
- 850 tonnes of CO\textsubscript{2} will be saved annually

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