



Prague Renewable Energy Community

The Prague Renewable Energy Community (PSOE) was founded in 2021 as a city organisation of the Capital City of Prague. The organisation was established for the purpose of providing comprehensive services related to the preparation, implementation and operation of electricity generation (hereinafter referred to as "production RES"). At the same time, these production facilities will be located both on real estate assets (buildings or land) owned by the City, and additionally on real estate and other natural and legal persons who are interested in participating in the entity. PSOE owns a licence for the production and sale of electricity and will be able to purchase surplus electricity produced on cost-effective conditions and supply it to other points of consumption also on cost-effective conditions.

Situation in the city before the PSOE was established

In May 2021 the City of Prague adopted a Climate Plan with the aim of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030 compared to the initial state of 2010. An important area of the Climate Plan is the building sector, where planned measures can ensure up to 10% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to the city's property, the Climate Plan also pays attention to the private housing sector, where the city of Prague is the first in the Czech Republic to come up with the concept of energy communities.

One of the priority projects of the Climate Plan is the development of energy communities. The first energy community will be established as part of a pilot project in Prague, district Černý Most, where a pilot installation is currently being prepared. In order to develop other installations, a municipal organisation was established on 1 October 2021 - the Prague Renewable Energy Community (PSOE), which will be the entity producing electricity from the installed photovoltaics, and will also be the supplier.



Benefits for the City and its Organisations / Justification

It provides several direct benefits for the City and its organisations:

- Prepares new projects of RES production and energy savings, the investor of which will be City or private owners of family homes and apartment buildings;
- Ensures suitable financing for their implementation with the use of subsidy sources;
- Operates new production RES owned by the city and supplies the energy produced by PSOE to the consumption sites of the City of Prague;
- Runs a single contact point ("one-stop-shop") for the inhabitants of the capital and provides services, including preparation of energy assessments, energy studies, applications for support, etc. in energy savings and RES projects;
- Performs all administrative activities necessary for the operation of renewable resources for individual investors (family homes and apartment buildings).

PSOE services

The PSOE helps with preparation of quality documentation (including project studies, and grant proposals) for citizens and municipal property. City organisations and citizens can use its services to help cover costs of projects studies, costs for operational licences for electricity market and reduce transaction costs of each PSOE member.

PSOE has its own licence for electricity market and this licence is therefore not required to be held by each PSOE member (household, etc.).

Potential for Learning

Municipalities with interest to energy communities could fairly simply adopt this practice. The fact that no legislation support is established yet in the Czech Republic can also enable using this approach to support pilot implementation in other countries.

In any municipality similar organization to PSOE can serve as a motivator and unique contact point for citizens and other organisations with guarantee, that their services are independent and valuable.

The Fund Achievements

PSOE is a newly established organisation, however as of 2021 it has achieved the following:

- Ensured project preparation financing for the preparation of pilot 100 PV installations owned by the city from the ELENA project – total subsidy of EUR 1.9 million
- Prepared approximately 60 pilot projects for financing (Structural Funds, Modernization Fund) - total investment support of EUR 4 million
- Currently it registers more than 300 people interested in its services from private owners of family and apartment houses
- Within all planned projects in the years 2022 - 2023, it has the potential to realize up to 400 installations
- It has the potential for the following quantified impacts within the prepared projects:
 - Reduction of energy consumption - 16 GWh / year
 - Reduction of CO2 emissions - 60 tons / year
 - Newly installed RES power - 70 MWp
 - Energy production from RES - 65 GWh / year
 - Cost savings - EUR 5.5 million / year



Contact