

Serbia: Biomass use in district heating plants will decrease expenses and improve services' quality

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The First Strategy of Energy Development in Serbia since 2015 to 2025 will be represented on 14 June- Dejan Trifunovic, Deputy Minister of Energy announced . Energy Development Strategy should define sustainable development of energy, to provide safety of energy supply to citizens and enable good connection between energy system and region in order to make conditions for Serbia to become significant electricity exporter- Trifunovic said.

He stressed that all priority projects will be defined in strategy in the next 15 years.

We expect 1.092 MW to come from renewable energy sources until 2020. Around 500 MW of it is from wind energy, 400 MW from hydro potential, 150 MW from biomass and the rest from geothermal sources, sun energy, communal landfill and similar.

Old systems of remote heating

Over 90% of heating energy in systems of remote heating in Serbia is based on use of fossil fuels, and only 15% in EU.

Marko Blagojevic, Executive Director of CESID, said that a study was done in order to determine which situation is in remote heating systems in Serbia, if there are some solutions to the problems and which alternatives are. -Systems of remote heating in Serbia owe 350 million EUR while around 200 million EUR was purchased from citizens.

Except for financial problems, remote heating systems in Serbia are not technically sustainable. Even 20% of them are over 30 years old.

Alternative

Biomass use is one of the best solutions in existing system and that services usage of remote heating in Serbia can be done in the way that will help all interested sides.

As Trifunovic stressed, Serbia is already at the beginning of biomass use in energy purposes, although it is our most significant resource.

-There are around 50 objects that use biomass online at the moment but it is necessary to work on education and development of the market. Total potential of biomass in Serbia is estimated to 3,3 million tons of oil equivalents yearly and the biggest amount of unused biomass is in Vojvodina, Zlatibor and East Serbia.

Managing Secretary of SKGO, Djordje Stancic, pointed that there was no system access for

heating plants' problem solution and for bigger use of biomass for needs of remote heating system.

Unreal prices of communal services, which were used for social policy, disabled investing in remote heating systems and it needs to be changed.

Stancic reminded that only one location in Belgrade uses biomass for remote heating systems and there is readiness of heating plant in Majdanpek to replace boilers and to use pellet and forest waste.

Savings

Biomass use in remote heating systems in Serbia can achieve meaningful savings and quality of services would be improved, next to decrease of CO2 emission amounts.

-Ecology sustainability is necessary to step away from fossil fuels' heating bit it is very important for ecology research to be financially profitable. Biomass is available resource in Serbia and its usage in the systems of remote heating is economically profitable and approachable. Services' quality would also be improved- said Pekka Orpana, Finland Ambassador in Serbia.

He stressed that Finland uses biomass as alternative to fossil fuels and it does that very successfully. As he said, this Scandinavian country is among leading ones in Europe and it will intend to implement its experiences in Serbia.

Anne Piispanen, Technical Director in Finnish Company for remote heating "Elenia Lampo Oy", represented conferences from transfer of gas to biomass in Finnish systems of remote heating.

Piispanen said that this company increased participation of biomass from 19 to 59% and that this energy is one of the most profitable ways to produce heating energy and electricity. As she stated, gas price in Finland is 50 EUR per MWH and biomass price is 20 EUR.

-Transfer from gas to biomass was additionally increased by 1 million EUR on annual level, with investments of around 10 million EUR considering that we invest in new technologies continuously.

Source;Agencies