

Attn to Dr. Burkhard Sanner
President of EGEC
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Some thoughts on geothermal energy

in connection with the proposal for a directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources
and EGEC's Position Paper to that proposal

I looked through the proposed Framework Directive for Renewable Energy Sources. In Article 2 it defines the types of renewable energies under the title of "*energy from renewable sources*", but hereafter only the biomass (and some others produced from it) is defined. Not only geothermal has no definition but, except biomass, neither the others have. In my regard

- or all of the listed renewables need to have definition in the new Directive
- or neither of them.

Naturally, definition of e.g. solar, wind or tidal is out of my competence. I feel that kind of identification would not be very easy since these words, notions, are widely used in the everyday speech. Considering that it seems probably better not to force determination of different renewable energy sources in the Framework Directive for RES

However, I understood Dr, Sanner's argument when suggesting a definition on geothermal energy to be included in Directive, i.e. to separate geothermal energy from thermal water. It is clear and to be accepted.

For this case let me share you the relevant Hungarian practise.

Separation of thermal water and geothermal heat was already done 15 years ago when the Mining Law was issued. It says that "*geothermal energy is property of the State*". (Also underground waters are own by the State according to another law called Water Management Law. Users of underground heat must pay royalty, and users of underground waters have to pay water fee to the State.) It is obvious that only clearly specified "something" may be property of somebody. Accordingly, the Hungarian Mining Law does contain a definition for geothermal energy saying: it is "*internal energy of the solid earth*".

I feel that this definition is not necessarily bad. It leads us a bit to the field of thermodynamics but it is not a problem.

We have some time to think and discuss about the way to follow until the 29th January deadline.

Budapest, 21st January, 2008.

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man. director