

Consultation procedure "Energy strategy 2050"
28.9.2012

SolarSuperState Association Press release 31.1.2013:

**Nuclear- and fossil energy protection law
- the draft of the amendment of the Swiss energy law 2012**

The draft of the energy law of 28 September 2012 tends toward a needless prolongation of the use of nuclear and fossil energy in Switzerland. 50 years of intensive research and development in industrialized countries have not found a solution for a safe disposal of radioactive waste and the SolarSuperState Association concludes that such a solution will never exist. Therefore, the extended use of atomic energy is a severe violation of the right to life for all creatures and last but not least for unborn and future generations. The new energy law (article 2) has to commit to a more speedy realization of an energy supply based on 100 % domestic renewable energy and has to aim for a time target for the realization of an electricity supply with 100 % renewable energy (annual balance) of 5 years at most. The improvement of energy efficiency has to complement the renewable energy supply, including cogeneration of heat and electricity which has also to be based solely on renewable energies.

Figure 1 shows a scenario for the complete substitution of nuclear and fossil electricity until the end of 2017. The annual growth rate of the annual addition of photovoltaics and wind energy is assumed to be 150 %. The starting point for photovoltaic additions is an estimated annual additional capacity of 150 Megawatt-peak in 2012. For wind energy, every canton installs in 2013 one 3 Megawatt wind turbine (standard size) with a hub height of about 150 meter. The annual full load time is supposed to be 10 % for photovoltaics and 20 % for wind energy. At the end of 2017, the cumulative installed power per capita would then be some 600 Watt for wind energy and some 3000 Watt for photovoltaics.

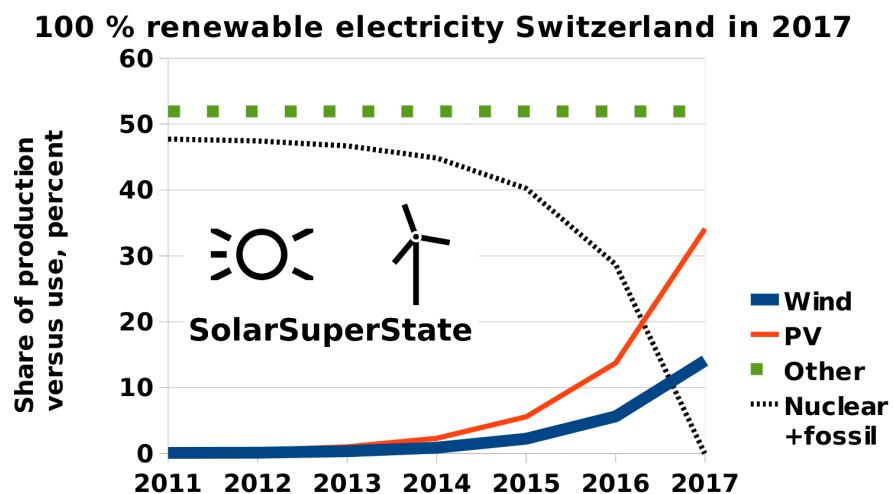


Figure 1: Scenario 100 % domestic renewable electricity from end of 2017 on

From 1 January 2018 on, this is sufficient to produce with renewable energy in an annual balance 100 % of the gross electricity consumption of the year 2011.

The following statutory rules are necessary to switch in such a shortened time period totally to renewable energies at least in the electricity sector:

- 1 Fixation of the following 4 principles in the energy law:
 - 1.1 The energy production and storage cannot exclusively be the task of the monopolized energy industry (article 7). Rather, the subsidiarity principle applies in Switzerland: energy shall also be produced on-site. Decentralized energy production stabilizes the power grid when the consumers transmute into „prosumers“.
 - 1.2 Also the smallest installation to produce renewable heat or electricity has a bigger public interest than the nature and monument protection regulations (article 14).
 - 1.3 Storage reservoirs and pump storage stations in Switzerland have to be operated exclusively for the purpose of a national electricity supply with 100 % domestic renewable energy.
 - 1.4 The municipalities are solely responsible for the definition of zones for wind energy. Within 12 months, every municipality has to determine at least 20 % of the non building zones as multifunctional zones where wind turbines are allowed and according to the local situation additionally other installations for renewable energy production, agriculture or forestry.
- 2 The cap of the feed-in tariff for electricity from photovoltaics, wind energy, domestic bioenergy and hydro power has to be removed immediately and totally (energy act article 3f).
- 3 The bureaucracy costs of the electricity production must be reduced drastically or disappear immediately:
 - 3.1 Photovoltaic installations up to 100 Kilowatt-peak need no permission. The passing of bureaucracy costs of the state authorities and electric utility companies on the plant operator is prohibited (energy regulation article 2).
 - 3.2 The time-consuming permitting process ("Planvorlage") for the Federal Inspectorate for Heavy Current Installations (ESTI) has to be abolished for photovoltaic installations up to a power of 1 Megawatt-peak.
 - 3.3 The consumer and producer of electricity has not to pay taxes, grid usage fees and electric meter usage fees for self-produced and self-consumed electricity, that is physically not flowing into the grid.
 - 3.4 The time for all permitting processes for wind, biomass, hydro power and large photovoltaic systems are limited to no more than 3 months. The prescribed wind energy expertises about the expected electricity yield are eliminated.
 - 3.5 The state bears the costs for requested expertises about flora and fauna in the permitting process for wind turbines.
- 4 In the building sector, the plus energy building standard (for energy for space heating, hot water and household electricity) is immediately set as standard for new heated buildings. The passive house standard (Minergie-P standard) has to be the standard for building renovations.

The following hardship cases are introduced:

- 4.1 If the plus energy building standard for new buildings cannot be achieved due to a lack of suitable areas, high density areas or shading, the owner must invest in new photovoltaic installations in the same municipality (analog replacement levy for Swiss air raid shelters).
- 4.2 The owner of an old building is allowed to exceed the maximum permitted gross floor area by 10 % in case of a building renovation in order to make this renovation more economically advantageous. Owners of a very small old building in a very bad energetic condition or with restrictions from monument protection regulations are entitled to substantial subsidies for building renovations. In case of monument protection, those state authorities responsible for the labeling of buildings according to the monument protection regulation have to pay these subsidies.
- 5 Swiss universities and universities of applied sciences that still issue higher-education diplomas for civil engineers and architects, which are technically not able to build plus energy buildings or passive houses immediately forfeit their permission to continue to offer courses for civil engineers and architects.

For more information you can ask

SolarSuperState Association Headquarter
In der Ey 17
8047 Zurich
Switzerland

Telephone +41 44 545 1188
info@SolarSuperState.com
www.SolarSuperState.com

The SolarSuperState Association is the global voice of people and organizations that can benefit from rapidly increasing markets for decentralized renewable energy technologies (wind and solar energy, energy storage, ...)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:
23.8.2013 SolarSuperState Prize 2013 Zurich Volkshaus Weisser Saal
