

IEA Task 24 Newsletter

5 November, 1999
 Copenhagen

The experts of this task met in Vejle, Denmark on 30 September - 1 October for the last time in this millennium. At the meeting the status of the project was presented: Buyer groups are being formed in the participating countries, and preparations are made for tendering to take place at the end of this year. Tools are being developed for tendering, financing etc., and they will be included in the web-site of the task. Thus the task is proceeding as scheduled. Please find below a brief report from each of the participating countries:

Canada:

Petersborough Green Up - an NGO has tendered for solar domestic hot water systems from 3 suppliers: The systems will be installed this fall. Parties involved include Petersborough Green Up, Petersborough Electricity Utility, City of Petersborough and Natural Resources Canada.

An NGO in Toronto is proceeding with a 9 system (3x3) project in parallel to the Peterborough Green-Up project. The 9 systems are expected to be installed in early 2000. Market studies and a programme plan will also be developed. They will also tender for 20-40 systems in year 2000.

Talks have been initiated with a company, which now supplies water heaters to homebuilders. The company wants to include solar heating in its product line.

Denmark:

In Denmark the focus is on 4 specific buyer groups:

- Electricity Utility Thy
- Employees at Rockwool International
- Two housing developers, KSF and HKS. Currently contact to the two developers goes through OVE (organisation for renewable Energy), an NGO
- The Thyholm Region in Western Jutland.

Denmark is co-ordinating the creation of tools for the forming of buyer groups, tendering, financing etc. The tools will be included in the web-site of the task, which is prepared in collaboration with Canada and based on input from all the participants. It will be included in the task web-site in year 2000. Please visit the web-site: www.ieatask24/org.

The Netherlands:

In the Netherlands a project is planned for 300 medium-sized systems through the umbrella organisation of housing associations called Aedes. There are specific plans with the utility EDON and the province of Groningen aiming at housing associations in the province. Together with EDON a campaign is also planned for 1999 and 2000 aiming at installing at least 1,000 solar water heaters in new housing developments in their supply area. EDON is also planning to commercialise their activities in the solar water heating field, starting with medium-sized systems. A national solar installation company is set up, in which 50 installers participate. The company aims at national solar water heater projects, the first one in collaboration with the World Wildlife Fund with the aim of realising 2,500 solar water heaters in 2000. A Dutch bank is also planning a solar water heater campaign directed towards all existing and new clients. Special loans and savings schemes will be developed.

Sweden:

In the first round Sweden will be focusing on both small systems and large plants, with two separate buyer groups. Purchasing of small systems (Domestic hot water) and accordingly also order forms will be launched through regional and national campaigns. A web-site, opening in the spring of 2000, will be used in combination with a selection of marketing activities. Purchasing of large plants will only include the collector modules and the buyer group will consist of housing companies, contractors, utilities and others. A competition documentation, including specifications for the small and large scale, will be carried out during the fall of 1999. The Tender is planned to be announced towards national and international manufacturers in December 1999. Delivery in the First round is expected to start early 2001.

Switzerland:

Switzerland joined the task in the spring of 1999 with funding from the Swiss government, and the work is carried out in the frame of Swiss Solar Energy Society (SSEC). Switzerland is focussing on 3 utilities within 3 regions:

- Wasserwerke Zug, where the goal is to create a buyer group
- Service Industrielle de la Ville Lausanne (contacts have been established)
- Electricity Works in Basel. (Have already planned campaign with PV, and SSEC wants to participate in this campaign).

Furthermore contacts to the Union of Swiss City works are planned.

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In general:

In May 1999 a meeting was held with solar heating suppliers in Amsterdam.

Task 24 is keeping contacts to possible new participants such as Germany, Austria, USA and Belgium.

Next expert meeting will take place in Canada from 28 February - 1 March 2000.