

The Energy Transition Chronicles

BURGENLAND (AUSTRIA): ENERGY TRANSITION TO REVIVE THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The region



Burgenland State
Austria

287.000 inhabitants

Symbol



The construction of the biggest wind farm in Austria was recently launched in Burgenland

Key figures

39% is the share of renewable energy in Burgenland's energy use in 2011

829.6 MW, is the region's wind power capacity, the second highest in Austria

4,500 jobs have been created through the development of wind power in Burgenland

Milestones

1992 A citizen from the north of the state wants to install a wind turbine on his property and contacts a consultancy – The consultancy recommends building a large farm in view of the site's high wind power potential

1993 The owner and the consultancy present the project to the Zurndorf town council

1993-1995 Planning and wind measurements

1994 Creation of a company for managing the project (the municipality has a 98% stake)

1995 Failure of the feed-in tariff negotiations with the grid manager – Austria joins the European Union: Burgenland benefits from the Structural Funds

1997 The Austrian government aims to increase the share of renewable energy to 3% of final energy use – Beginning of construction work at the Zurndorf wind farm

2001 Opening up of the Austrian electricity market

2002 Burgenland develops a regional wind power plan

2003 Adoption of the Green Power Act

2009 Creation of *Energieteam* which sets an energy self-sufficiency target by 2050

2013 Burgenland is self-sufficient in electricity

You can get the story *Burgenland: Energy transition to revive the economy*, as well as the chronicles of Heidelberg (Germany), Schönau (Germany), Brussels-Capital (Belgium) and Växjö (Sweden), via Energy Cities' website www.energy-cities.eu - Resources > Publications.