

Photovoltaics in Bulgaria. Current situation and perspectives for development



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Main topics

Who are we

Our goals

Activities

PV regulation in Bulgaria - problems and chances

Changes in 2010 and implications for investors



Who are we

BPvA was founded on **September 16. 2009** by 17 companies active in the PV sector.

Companies with different profile:

- Producers of solar panels
- installers
- investors in the construction of PV power plants
- project developers
- financial institutions
- investment companies and consultancies.

Who are we



- BPvA in 2009 – 17 members

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Who are we



- BPvA in May 2010 – over 65 members. And growing...

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Who are we



Bulgarian Photovoltaic Association – local and still truly international

- Members from Bulgaria, Germany, Spain, Denmark, USA
- Active membership at EPIA – European Photovoltaic Industry Association
- Local partner in the project PV LEGAL – removing of legal-administrative barriers

Our goals



Sustainable business environment

- better legislative framework
- clear rules and transparency
- less barriers for investments
- sustainable market development (German model)
- create conditions for industrial production
- **help improve energy efficiency in combination with RES/PV in public and private buildings**

Activities



Communication and lobbying

- Government
- Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism
- Regulator
- NEK

Cooperation

- national (RES and business associations, media, academia etc.)
- international (EPIA, BSW, European Commission)

Working group for new Renewable Energy Act

- taking part in drafting the new REA

Activities



“10.000 solar rooftops”

- less legal-administrative barriers and shorter waiting times
- differentiated FiT for rooftop and ground mounted PV systems
- communication campaign for the general public

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- consumers becoming producers
- creation of local PV companies and boosting of investments
- trained and skilled local staff
- PV market with a great potential for investors and industry

The PV market in 2009

Total installed capacity from PV in 2009 – less than **7 MWp**.

Currently - total installed capacity of less than **10 MWp** from PV



Applications for PV power plants – **4000 MWp**.

Only up to **5-10%** of those projects are regarded as **'real'** in terms of technical and financial ability of implementation.



PV regulation – problems and chances

Financial

- FiT is not fixed – projects are hardly bankable

Administrative barriers

- long waiting times (rooftop installations)
- general uncertainty

Speculators and grid access

- too many speculators and a secondary market for ‚projects‘
- virtual lack of grid capacity
- real grid overload in some areas



Political uncertainty

PV regulation – problems and chances



Political uncertainty

- Moratorium talks in December 2009 – Ministry of Environment

- State Commission for Energy and Water Regulation (SCEWR)
 - Rules for energy trading – daily output forecasts
 - Rules for licencing – bank contract for financing in order to get licence
 - Decrease in FiT for PV

- Ban on all RES on agricultural land (categories 1 to 4 – appr. 45% of total)
 - Ministry of agriculture – PALA in Parliament !!!
 - Most probably going to be amendet before adoption !!!

Regulation amendments in 2010

National Renewable Energy Action Plan (due end of June 2010)

- Mr. Lulin Radulov and his team draft the NREAP
- PV and wind undervalued; biomass and energy efficiency overvalued

Renewable energy act (to be adopted until December 2010)

- fixed FiT for 25 years (probably corridor model)
- solving of grid related issues + priority of RES over conventional
- reducing legal-administrative barriers (crucial for rooftop PV systems)
- public information system for RES projects and producers
- reducing speculative projects
- reducing legal-administrative barriers (crucial for rooftop PV systems)
- public information system for RES projects and producers

Forecast 2010

Partly cloudy with prospects for sunny weather!

The prospects for the development of the Bulgarian PV market in 2010 are rather optimistic.

Expectations:

Installed capacity in 2010 in the range of 10-50 MWp in 2010 and between 500-1000 MWp until 2015.

Until 2020 Bulgaria is expected to have an overall installed a capacity of up to 2500-4000 MWp from PV power systems. – PARADIGM SHIFT NEEDED!



**Thank you
for your attention!**

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