



EUROPEAN UNION

European Regional Development Fund

Senate Department
for Economics, Energy
and Public Enterprises



NEW ADDITIONS TO THE RBB PROGRAMME: AN ENERGY CENTRE FOR QUALITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE PROTECTION

GLOBAL WARMING AFFECTS US ALL. To counteract it, energy cycles must become more efficient and sustainable. In addition, carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption must be reduced significantly. At the same time, we must use more renewable energies in order to meet the daily energy requirements for heating and electricity. This is the only way to stop climate change in the long run. The Federal State of Berlin aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by around 40 percent by 2020. This is only possible if companies in Berlin also save more energy. The Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg is setting a good example.

AT THE BEGINNING OF 2017 the public broadcasting corporation of the Federal States of Berlin and Brandenburg started with the construction of its own cogeneration plant. This will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by around 3,100 tons per year. In Germany, these savings correspond to the average annual CO₂ emissions of almost 330 adults.

The new energy centre uses the waste gas that typically escapes unused through the chimney, to power an absorption refrigeration system. This cycle saves energy and reduces carbon dioxide emissions, allowing *rbb* to do without external district heat supply in the future and, for the most part, independently generate its own basic heating, cooling and electrical energy. The financial savings will be used for the benefit of the broadcast station itself. The cost savings will flow into the *rbb*'s programme design, Artistic Director Patricia Schlesinger has assured. The building project is to be completed in 2019; the building shell of the cogeneration plant has already been constructed. The new energy centre is funded by the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): Berlin's Programme for Sustainable Development (BENE Klima)** helps companies to reduce their energy consumption. The ERDF thereby promotes Berlin's development as a sustainable, energy-efficient, environmentally friendly and resource-efficient region.

»THE NEW POWER PLANT NOT ONLY EASES THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF THE BROADCASTING COMPANY, IT ALSO PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT BY HELPING TO REDUCE CO₂ EMISSIONS AND CONSERVE ENERGY. IT CAN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS.«

Thomas Westpfahl,
Head of Building Services Engineering at rbb



A CHALLENGE FOR THE BROADCASTING COMPANY

The construction of *rbb*'s new energy centre was made possible **by the ERDF subsidy**. As the public broadcasting institution covers its expenses with earnings from broadcast licence fees, it would otherwise not have been possible to finance the costly construction. Furthermore, the media institution was not familiar with the topics of energy and utilities and was therefore in need of **technical support**. This was provided by external technical planners, who developed the energy concept and carried out the detailed planning. The broadcasting company also received support from the *Beratungs- und Service-Gesellschaft Umwelt mbH* (B.&S.U.) with regard to BENE financing eligibility and funding modalities. The organisation is acting on behalf of the Senate Department for the Environment, Traffic and Climate Protection, advising and supporting the applicants for and grant recipients of the BENE programme. The advisory service is also financed with ERDF funding.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE COGENERATION PLANT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE ERDF

rbb's new energy centre not only benefits the broadcasting company. Climate change is an acute phenomenon that exists across state and national borders. The construction of the power plant not only saves electricity, **the reduced energy consumption** also helps the State of Berlin to achieve its climate target. With this step, *rbb* is setting an example and motivating other companies to follow suit.

THE ERDF IS HAVING AN IMPACT ON BERLIN

With its **Berlin Programme for Sustainable Development** (BENE Climate), the ERDF is co-funding measures, projects and initiatives that promote a climate-neutral and environmentally friendly Berlin. Funding is provided both for **energy saving measures** in the corporate sector and for energy saving investments and the **use of renewable energies** in public infrastructures and buildings. Funding is also provided for **improvements to public transport**, including bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Funding modules are also available for the **research and development** of low-carbon technologies, as well as environmental and energy management systems. The objective of the programme is to **reduce CO₂ emissions** in the commercial and public sectors in order to balance economic growth and resource preservation. This expedites ecological structural change and improves the quality of life and environment in Berlin.

In this way, the ERDF is actively helping

- *rbb* to build a new, more efficient energy centre.
- companies to save electricity, carbon dioxide and costs, allowing them to operate in a more sustainable way.
- Berlin to achieve its climate targets.
- to mitigate climate change.



State Secretary Stefan Tidow and Chairwoman Patricia Schlesinger



Visualisation of the new rbb energy centre



Laying of the foundation stone

FUNDING GUIDELINE: CONTACT:

FUNDING PRIORITY 3
Reduction of CO₂ emissions,
BENE Klima

FUNDING AMOUNT
max. € 2,150,000

PROJECT TERM

03/11/2016 - 11/15/2019

SENATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, TRAFFIC AND CLIMATE PROTECTION

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