

Albania is trying to take new steps towards the application of renewable energy, which enables not only cleaner energy, but also a reduction of carbon emissions into the environment. A procedure is currently underway to develop three feasibility studies: to establish a national network of charging stations for electric cars; for the so-called The “path of clean energy”; and to replace the heating system in the Korca region.

### **National Network of Electric Car Charging Stations**

Albania is preparing to conduct a feasibility study for the installation of chargers for electric cars. The Energy Efficiency Agency has launched a tender for the implementation of this study. The purpose of the tender is the realization of a feasibility study, and then a preliminary design, for the installation of a network of chargers for electric cars on the territory of Albania. The feasibility study will determine the billing system as well as the coverage network that should cover the entire territory of the country. This study will be followed by an environmental impact study, according to the tender documentation.

It is estimated that the demand for electric cars will grow rapidly, and that by 2030, about 23% of road transport vehicles will be electric cars, according to the International Energy Agency. In 2018, EU member states and the European Parliament agreed on a new classification of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for new vehicles, in order to stimulate zero and low emission vehicles.

### **Project: The path of clean energy**

In addition to the feasibility study for the national network of charging stations for electric cars, another energy project is the creation of a complete lighting and parking system for electric vehicles. The project was called “2 km Smart City, the path of clean energy”. A project that will help reduce CO<sub>2</sub> levels and serve as a promoter of energy efficiency and clean energy. The consultant selected in the tender will have to propose in the study a solution for the axis of the road that will be used for this project. The purpose of the study is to improve energy efficiency by reducing energy consumption and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> levels in urban lighting, as well as promoting the use of electric cars, which will bring relevant environmental benefits.

City lighting aims to provide good visibility in the dark to public transport users to support traffic safety, traffic flow and public safety. The key impact of street lighting on the environment is the energy consumption closely related to greenhouse gases. Other environmental impacts stem from the use of some substances, such as mercury, but the main criterion is focused on energy consumption. Setting energy efficiency requirements for

light bulbs directly leads to a reduction in mercury content. For that reason, the increase of standards during the design should be a condition for the realization of lighting to be realized in accordance with the specifications of light bulbs according to the category of use - on city streets and residential settlements, gardens and squares, according to the tender documentation.

Electrification of road transport will significantly contribute to the improvement of air quality, on the one hand, and protection of the climate, on the other hand, only if the used electricity comes from low or zero emission sources (solar panels, wind, hydro, geothermal energy). For the design of the project, the possibilities of setting up charging stations should be analyzed, together with a financial analysis regarding the level of investment in the lighting system, parking and charging of electric cars. The consultant should present the program of realization of the project idea, a detailed project of technical implementation, with all the necessary documentation for the implementation works.

### **Heating in Korca**

The Energy Efficiency Agency has opened a tender for a feasibility study for a new heating system in Korca, an eastern Albanian town. Since the 1990s, with the cessation of industrial activities, including the hydro power plant that supported this industry, the apartments were initially heated with wood, to begin the gradual use of FanCoil equipment, or individual air conditioners, which use electricity from central heating. networks.

Individual home heating with the FanCoil system was in many cases inefficient due to the poor quality of the equipment used, which gives low efficiency during the heating season and causes frequent equipment failures during cold periods with temperatures below zero degrees, while traditional wood heating in addition to low efficiency also creates CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and causes heavy air pollution as well as massive deforestation. Despite the fact that there is a moratorium which prohibits the use of timber from the public and private forest fund, a significant part of the heating in the town of Korca is currently relying on timber.

The aim of the project is to diversify and find new possibilities for heating existing and new buildings (public or private) during the winter, in order to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and heating costs. The share of the housing sector in final consumption is significant, and taking measures to diversify the energy supply, as well as reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, is of particular importance.

The main goal that will accompany this whole process will be the promotion and use of new alternatives that are environmentally friendly for heating buildings during the winter period.

## Tenders for feasibility studies for three green energy projects in Albania

Given that Albania is already part of the Trans-Adriatic Pipeline, applicants for a feasibility study should also consider this possibility, as well as other alternatives for energy production, such as biomass, solar photovoltaic panels for energy production / domestic hot water from wind. , etc., is stated in the tender documents.

After the realization of the feasibility study, the consultant will implement the project idea for the variant that is determined by this study as the most feasible.

Source: [energja.al](http://energja.al)