

Quality and subsidy schemes

Case of France

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Designed in early 90's by Tecsol

The concept

- Monitoring, counting, Analysis of running conditions
- Commitment to ensure defined level of solar energy production
- Contract between owner and technical group

Objectives

- Prevent from design errors
- Responsibilize stakeholders of technical group
- Reinsure owners about performances of their installations

Use of GSR scheme

Positive consequences

- During program Plan Soleil (2000-2006)
 - ✓ One of key condition of subsidy scheme to get the subsidy
 - ✓ Principal element to ensure and follow efficiency of public financial support
- Effects of GSR
 - ✓ Contribute to the building of a first organization of CSTS market
 - ✓ Help to eliminate the worst designs and stakeholders

Limits of GSR scheme for application on a large scale

- Unable to apply to all installations of Plan Soleil
 - ✓ Conflict between contract and public call tender regulation
 - ✓ Problems of adaptation of obligations to specific configuration of owners, some technical designs
- GSR scheme very mainly applied by one structure
- Various panel of applying of conditions of contract (not completely legally defined)
- ADEME is not a stakeholder and signer of contract: no action towards owner to make him take care of its plant

Reflexions for new approach in subsidy scheme

Goals (common with other financial support schemes)

➤ Transparency

- ✓ insure effective publication of energetic results for financed installations
- ✓ regular monitoring and measurement of real production for each site
- ✓ data collection, analysis and publication (website)
- ✓ total energy produced a regional and national level

➤ Quality in long-term

- ✓ set up a subsidy scheme inciting to improve quality of installations in a permanent way, at all stages of projects and for each stakeholder

Practical issues

➤ For owner

- ✓ Put a monitoring system (paid by ADEME) on its installation
- ✓ Transmit to ADEME solar energy produced and auxiliary heating consumption during 3 years
- ✓ Agree that ADEME analyze, publish results
- ✓ Possibility to set up GSR scheme if interested

➤ For ADEME

- ✓ Define, establish and manage a "solar thermal observatory"
- ✓ GSR scheme no longer compulsory condition for subsidy

To conclude

- Quality scheme at all stages of CSTS project
 - ✓ Feasibility study + energetic study of installation or building
 - ✓ Improvement of existing installation if needed after study
 - ✓ Monitoring of installation and follow up during several years (in maintenance process ideally)

- Subsidy scheme
 - ✓ Financial support and accompanying measures at each step
 - ✓ Demand for installation of monitoring system
 - ✓ Coordinated follow up and compilation of energetic performance results of solar installations