

The Energy Concept of Stadtwerke Rosenheim: A Model for Sustainable Urban Transformation

Stadtwerke Rosenheim, host of GEODE's Autumn Seminar on November 11th, demonstrates how a community-owned utility can lead in the energy transition while addressing local needs. Fully owned by the city, Stadtwerke Rosenheim has invested €400 million to replace oil-based heating with cleaner systems like district heating, combined heat and power (CHP), and heat pumps. This transformation highlights its commitment to sustainability, economic viability, and supply security for Rosenheim's residents.

Located in the heart of the city, Stadtwerke Rosenheim ensures its operations are both efficient and environmentally clean. Beyond energy, it manages waste and water services, cementing its role as "the community" serving all citizens. Currently, about 55% of its energy mix is renewable—though not yet fully carbon-neutral. With a practical approach, Stadtwerke Rosenheim aims for a 95% CO2 reduction, recognizing that some reliance on natural gas will remain necessary.

CO2 reduction is a cornerstone of their strategy, with an estimated **50% emissions cut** achieved **through district heating and reduced reliance on local gas and oil boilers**. Investments in biogas engines and waste-to-energy systems illustrate how targeted efforts can deliver substantial environmental benefits.

Funding this transition has been a major task for Stadtwerke Rosenheim. While energy prices remain high, market trends suggest stabilization at manageable levels. This strengthens their ability to maintain economic competitiveness and stability while advancing sustainability.

Adapting to evolving energy demands, Stadtwerke Rosenheim focuses on flexibility, particularly regarding gas usage. Diversifying energy sources like waste incineration and wood gasification allows it to ensure reliability, avoiding overreliance on solar and wind. By building on these strengths, the utility guarantees a sustainable energy future for the city.

Stadtwerke Rosenheim exemplifies how **community-driven energy solutions can balance innovation with practicality**. Its **tailored strategies and commitment to sustainability** provide valuable insights for other utilities navigating the energy transition. As cities adapt to new energy realities, Stadtwerke Rosenheim's approach serves as a beacon of progress.