

➤ **FACTS + FIGURES 2024**

The Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) is the country's competence centre for issues relating to energy supply and energy use at the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC).

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Our objectives

THE SFOE

- Creates the prerequisites for a sufficient, crisis-proof, broad-based, economic and sustainable energy supply.
- Ensures the maintenance of high safety standards in the production, transport and utilisation of energy.
- Creates the necessary conditions for efficient electricity and gas markets and an adapted infrastructure.
- Actively promotes efficient energy use, an increase in the share of renewable energy and a reduction in CO₂ emissions.
- Promotes and coordinates national energy research and supports the development of new markets for sustainable energy use and supply.



OUR COORDINATES

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ADDRESS FOR VISITORS

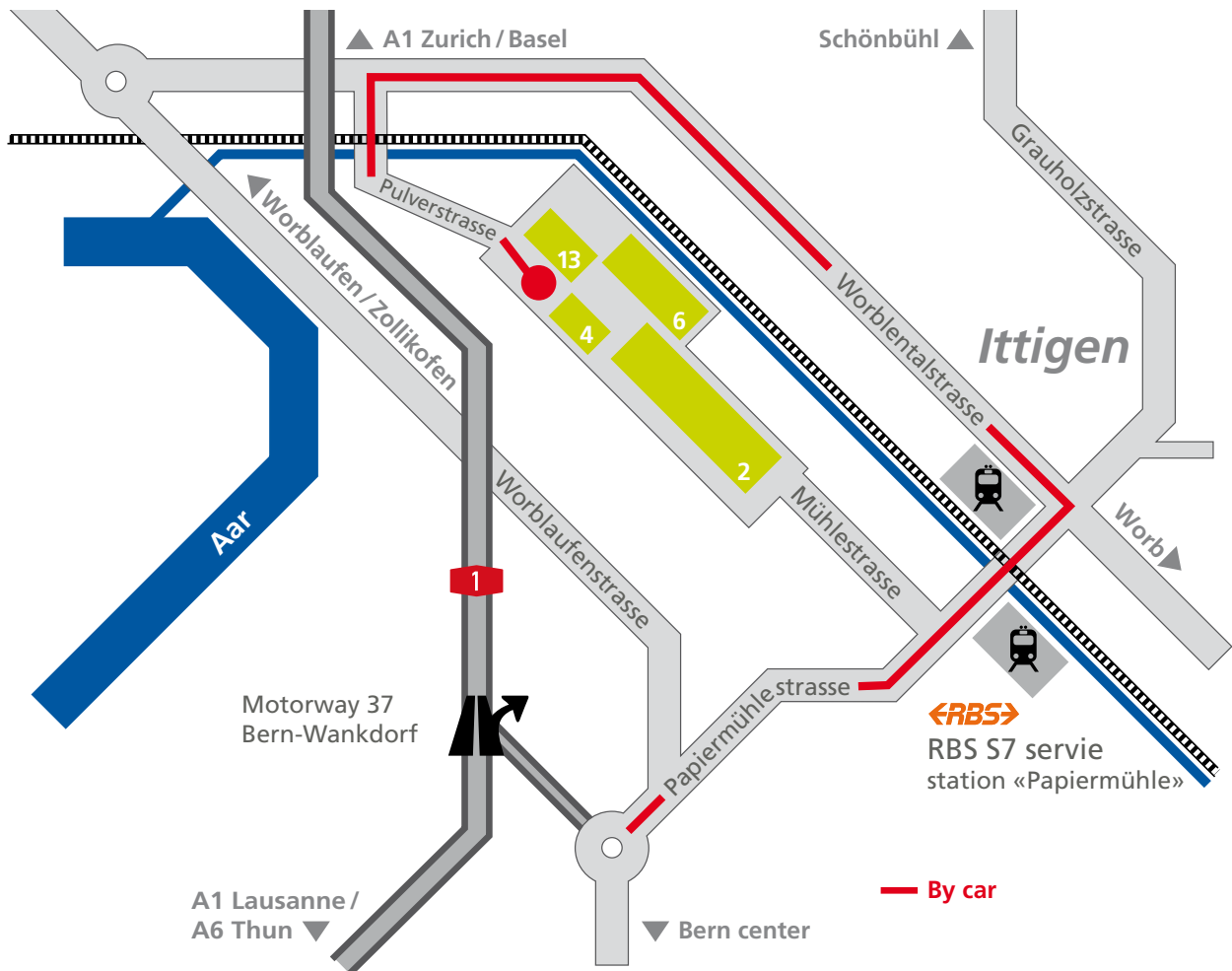
Swiss Federal Office of
Energy SFOE,
Pulverstrasse 13,
CH-3063 Ittigen

► HOW TO GET THERE

RBS S7 service (Worb) from Bern main railway station to "Papiermühle", then approximately 5 minutes on foot.

"Bern Wankdorf" motorway exit, follow signs to Ittigen. Marked parking spaces available for visitors (please reserve in advance if possible).

Location map SFOE

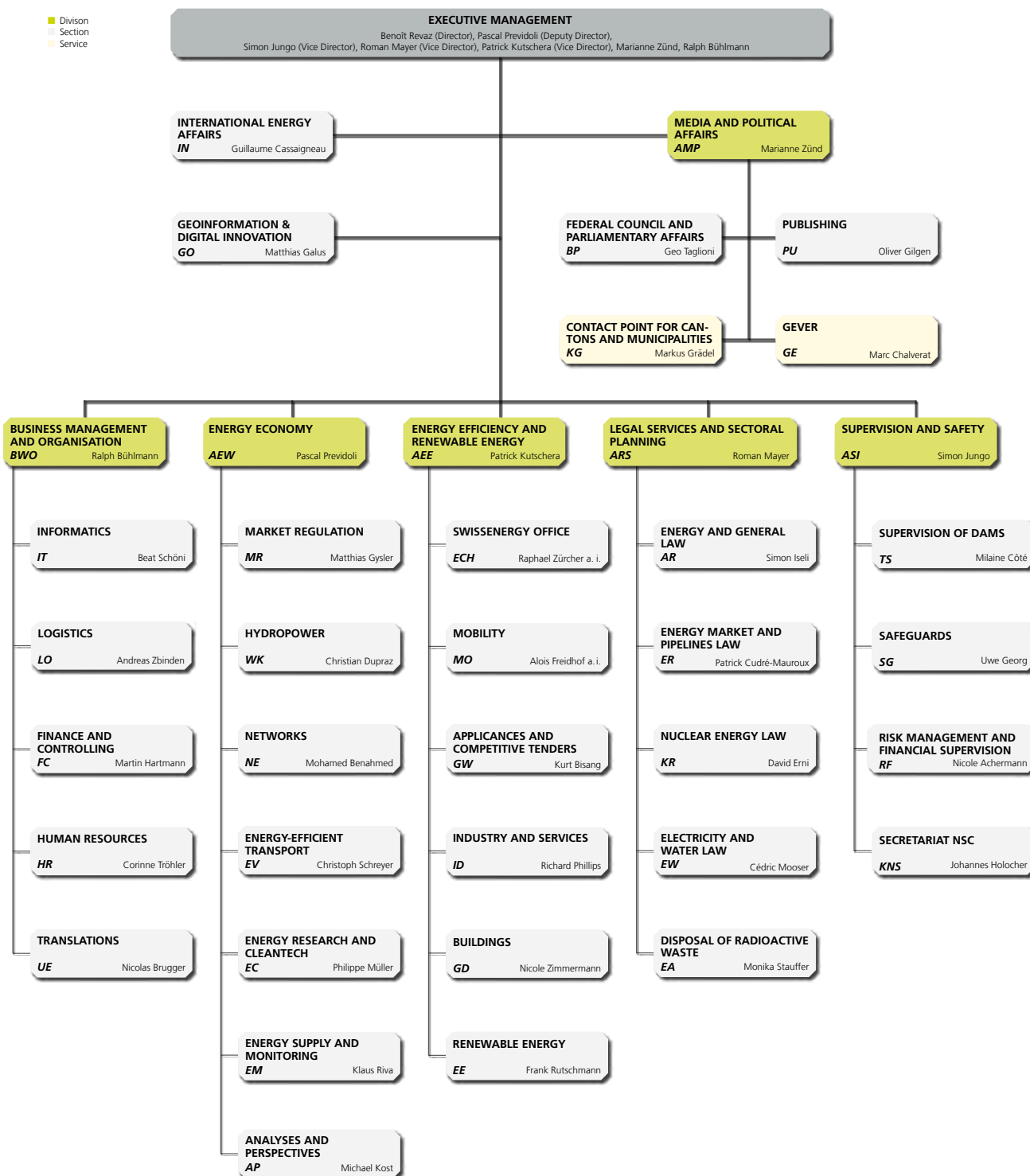


OUR STRUCTURE

Developments in energy policy, as well as in the energy industry and energy technology, occur at a rapid pace, and the range of tasks for which the SFOE is responsible is also constantly expanding. Supply security, the replacement and expansion of the existing energy infrastructure and the transition towards sustainable and smart energy systems are some of the main priorities for the next few years.

The SFOE is facing these challenges with a streamlined organisational structure so that it can continue to carry out its activities efficiently, effectively and in a carefully coordinated manner in the future. In 2024, the SFOE comprises six divisions, plus an International Energy Affairs section and a Geoinformation & Digital Innovation section.

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE organisational — chart as of 1 april 2024



OUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

In order to achieve its objectives, the SFOE has a workforce of around 310 employees, who are responsible for the following main areas of activity:

- Preparation and implementation of a coherent energy policy, and preparation and enforcement of the necessary legislation and programmes.
- Promotion of research and development in the area of economical and efficient energy use and the use of renewable forms of energy.
- Dealing with issues relating to the energy industry and energy technology.
- Processing and granting of licences in the area of nuclear energy.
- Licensing of electrical systems for which the Federal Inspectorate for Heavy Current Installations is not responsible.
- Licensing of pipeline systems.
- Appropriate utilisation of hydropower and its regulation on bodies of water bordering neighbouring countries.
- Technical and operational safety of dams and reservoirs, as well as pipeline systems in Switzerland.
- Oversight of Swiss nuclear materials (safeguards) and nuclear export controls.

▶ MEDIA AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS (AMP)

The Media and Political Affairs (AMP) division functions as an interface between the Federal Council, the SFOE, Parliament, the cantons, the economy, the media and society. It ensures that the energy business conducted by the Federal Council and Parliament is prepared correctly and punctually, and that it is communicated in an appropriate manner. In cooperation with the administration, the division promotes the exchange of information with the cantons and handles inquiries from the media and private citizens. As the internal interface the division coordinates media and public relations activities and makes sure energy-related themes are prepared appropriately to reach various groups across all forms of media, e.g., on the SFOE's website and on the SFOE blog www.energeiaplus.com. The division also assists in the publication of numerous multilingual reports, brochures and information in other forms and is responsible for quality control and adherence to the division's corporate design. It also awards the annual Watt d'Or prize for excellence in the energy sector and organises the Swiss Energy Innovation Days in cooperation with various other countries.

▶ BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION (BWO)

The Business Management and Organisation (BWO) division is responsible for structuring and implementing strategic issues in the areas of financing, human resources, IT and logistics. It provides the SFOE management and divisions with support for their financial, personnel and logistics management and steering activities, as well as in the areas of organisational development and translation services. It is responsible for securing smooth and efficient operations within the SFOE in line with clients' needs, as well as for ensuring workplace safety and the provision of pleasant and healthy working conditions.

OUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

▶ ENERGY ECONOMY (AEW)

The Energy Economy (AEW) division is the main point of contact for all matters concerning national energy policy and it supports the International Energy Affairs division in connection with questions about Switzerland's energy policy in an international context. The division is responsible for defining the principles for the energy policy and the energy economy. This includes carrying out impact analyses, compiling statistics and making estimates of long-term energy perspectives. The division manages and supports evaluations and impact analyses of energy policy programmes and measures. In addition, AEW is also responsible for the development of new energy policy instruments and the further development of existing ones, as well as for defining the framework for the electricity and gas markets and long-term security of supply. Other priorities for the division are coordinating national energy research and integrating it into the international environment, leadership in pilot, demonstration and flagship programmes, and the promotion of knowledge and technology transfer. AEW is also responsible for the elaboration of the regulatory framework, and the implementation of the sovereign measures aimed at promoting energy-efficient, sustainable mobility. In addition, this division is responsible for hydropower and is the highest supervisory authority in the area of utilisation of bodies of water for the production of energy.

▶ ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (AEE)

The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (AEE) is the competence centre for energy efficiency and renewable energies. The division defines the fundamentals of energy policy in these areas as well as new measures and instruments to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies. It is also responsible for coordinating the implementation and enforcement of the applicable legislation. In the area of training and further education, AEE secures the further development of technologies and know-how transfer in practice. The SwissEnergy programme, with which the SFOE – in close cooperation with the cantons, municipalities, trade and industry and environmental and consumer organisations – is making a specific contribution towards the implementation of Switzerland's energy and climate policies, is an important area of activity of this section. SwissEnergy is campaigning for the increased use of renewable energy, as well as for efficient energy use in trade and industry, the services sector, mobility, buildings and electrical appliances.

▶ LEGAL SERVICES AND SECTORAL PLANNING (ARS)

One of the main duties of the Legal Services and Sectoral Planning (ARS) division is to deal with all legal issues relating to the SFOE. It formulates draft texts of federal acts and ordinances, organises consultation procedures, prepares dispatches to Parliament and supports parliamentary debates. It is also responsible for procedures in the area of nuclear energy, and issues planning permission for high-pressure gas and oil pipelines, as well as for electrical installations, especially high-voltage power lines. In addition, this division defines the principles for the disposal of radioactive waste in Switzerland, and is in charge of the site selection procedure for deep geological repositories.

OUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

▶ SUPERVISION AND SAFETY (ASI)

The Supervision and Safety division (ASI) is responsible for all of the SFOE's duties relating to supervision and to risk and safety management. It has oversight of the grid surcharge fund, the decommissioning fund for nuclear facilities and the waste disposal fund for nuclear power plants. It implements the national strategies to protect critical infrastructures and to protect against cyber risk in the energy domain. Its emergency, crisis and continuity management enables the SFOE to conduct its tasks in extraordinary situations. The ASI is also responsible for the structural safety, supervision and emergency planning of over 200 large dams and of natural gas and oil pipelines. ASI coordinates Switzerland's international nuclear energy policy, representing Switzerland in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) and a number of other international nuclear bodies. In addition, the ASI is responsible for national nuclear material control and accounting (safeguards) in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The division is affiliated at administrative level to the Secretariat of the Nuclear Safety Commission (NSC) in Aarau. It chairs the supervisory committee of the Federal Inspectorate for Heavy Current Installations (ESTI) and represents the SFOE on the Federal Civil Protection Crisis Management Board, with lead responsibility for prevention planning.

▶ GEOINFORMATION & DIGITAL INNOVATION (GO)

The Geoinformation & Digital Innovation Section runs the centre of expertise for geoinformation, open government data and digitalisation in the energy sector. It develops basic principles, new measures and instruments in these fields and is responsible for their implementation and enforcement.

▶ INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AFFAIRS (IN)

International Energy Affairs (IN) is in charge of international (non-nuclear) energy affairs. It represents SFOE in various bodies of international energy organizations and handles bilateral energy relations with selected countries. It also leads negotiations on energy related matters with the European Union. Finally it ensures coherence of domestic energy and Switzerland's foreign energy policy and coordinates on energy matters with Swiss donor agencies.

OUR RESOURCES

The administrative complex of the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC), which accommodates around 1,100 employees, is located in a section of the site of former Gurit-Worbla AG in Ittigen, near Bern. In addition to providing a home for the SFOE, the four buildings that form the DETEC complex also house the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA), the Federal Roads Office (FEDRO) and the Federal Office of Transport (FOT).

As of 1 January 2024, the SFOE employs 327 staff in 281.3 full-time positions, as well as 9 graduate interns, 3 commercial apprentices, one apprentice in mediamatics and one apprentice in ICT. The proportion of women is 42,5 percent overall. In order for the SFOE to perform its official mandates, its personnel have to possess a great deal of specialised know-how from practice and research. In view of this, the proportion of employees with a degree from a university or college of technology is very high (around 76,4 percent). The SFOE ensures that its personnel are provided with further education, and it also supports constant exchange with representatives from the administration, the economy, politics, science and non-governmental organisations.

In 2024, the SFOE has a global budget of around CHF 100 million and is planning transfer and investment expenditure totalising around CHF 480 million. Receipts of CHF 89 million are planned. The SFOE also administers the grid surcharge fund with a volume of around CHF 1,3 billion.

Illustrations: Luca Gerber, mediamatics apprentice

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