FACTS + FIGURES 2026

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).

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 CO_2 emissions.
- Promotes and coordinates national energy research and supports the development of new markets for sustainable energy use and supply.

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE

OUR COORDINATES

POSTAL ADDRESS
Swiss Federal Office of
Energy SFOE,
CH-3003 Bern
Phone +41 58 462 56 11
Fax +41 58 463 25 00
contact@bfe.admin.ch
www.bfe.admin.ch

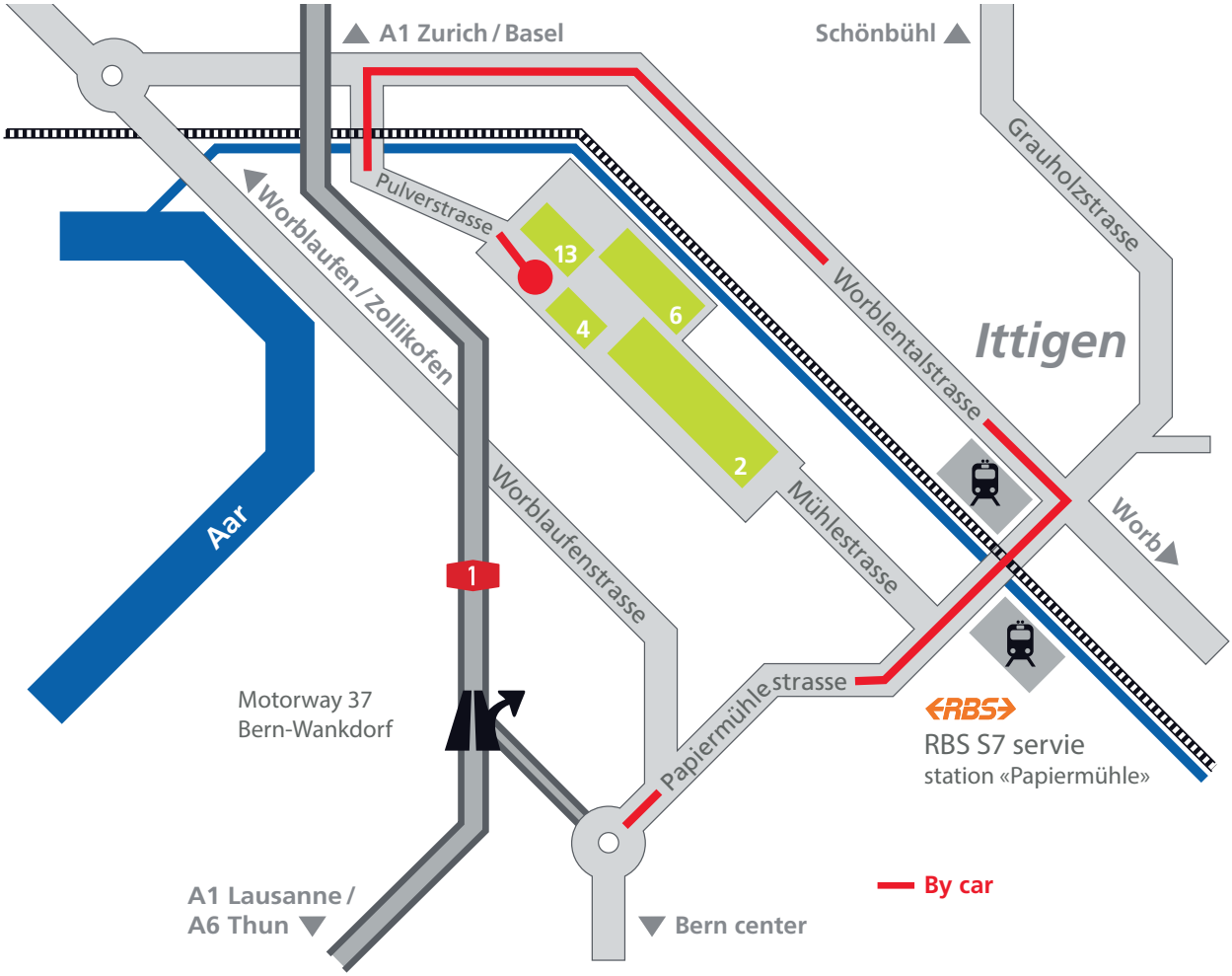
ADDRESS FOR VISITORS
Swiss Federal Office of
Energy SFOE,
Pulverstrasse 13,
CH-3063 Ittigen

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

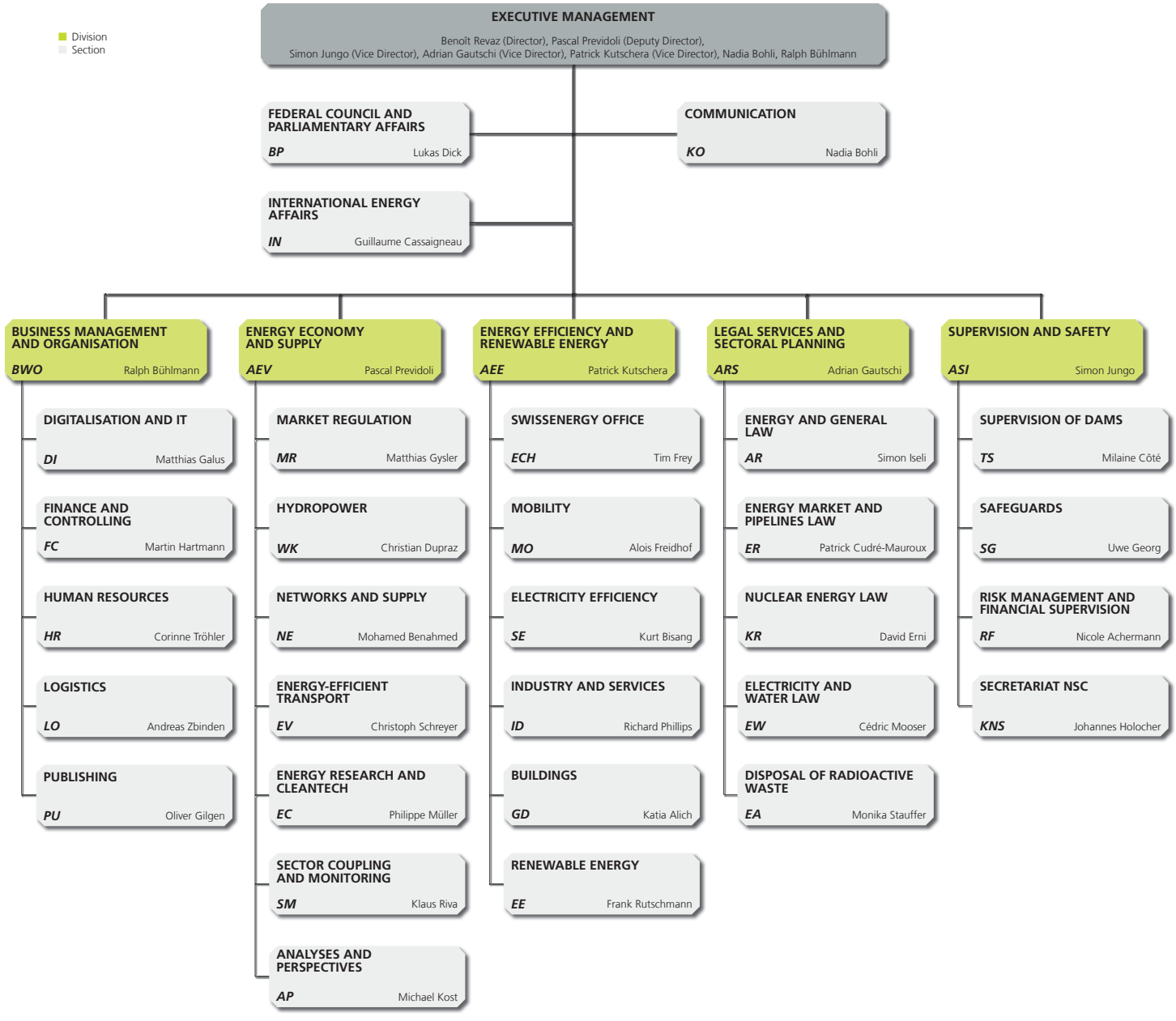


OUR STRUCTURE

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 2026, the SFOE comprises five divisions, as well as sections for Federal Council and Parliamentary Affairs, International Energy Affairs and Communication.

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE organisational — Chart as of 1 september 2026



OUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

In order to achieve its objectives, the SFOE has a workforce of 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.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION (BWO)

The Business Management and Organisation (BWO) division is responsible for finance, human resources, IT, digitalisation, logistics, publishing and information management. It provides Executive Management and the specialist divisions with support for their financial, personnel and logistics management and steering activities, as well as organisational development and digitalisation. It also organises electronic business management, filing of business-related documents and publication of relevant information. The division facilitates smooth and efficient operations within the SFOE in line with clients' needs, as well as ensuring workplace safety and optimum, healthy working conditions. It operates the centre of excellence for geoinformation, open government data and digitalisation in the energy sector, defining basic principles, new measures and instruments in these fields and ensuring that they are implemented and enforced.

ENERGY ECONOMY AND SUPPLY (AEV)

The Energy Economy and Supply (AEV) 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, the energy economy and for supply. 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, AEV 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 and demonstration programmes, and the promotion of knowledge and technology transfer. AEV 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.

OUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (AEE)

The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (AEE) division is the centre of excellence for these issues. It establishes energy policy principles and devises new measures and instruments to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies. The division is also responsible for coordinating the implementation and enforcement of legislation. With regard to training and further education, AEE ensures that technologies continue to advance and that knowledge is put into practice. A key area of work for the division is the SwissEnergy programme. Through this initiative, the SFOE helps to implement Swiss energy and climate policy, working closely with cantons, communes, businesses and environmental and consumer organisations. SwissEnergy campaigns for the increased use of renewable energy and more efficient energy use in industry, commerce, 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.

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.

OUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

FEDERAL COUNCIL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (BP)

The Federal Council and Parliamentary Affairs (BP) section acts as a hub connecting the specialist divisions, Executive Management, the department and the cantons. It reports directly to the head of the SFOE. The section ensures that Federal Council and parliamentary affairs relating to energy policy are factually correct, processed promptly and incorporated into the political process. It is also responsible for coordinating and responding to procedural requests and queries from Parliament and communication from organisations and members of the public. The point of contact for cantons and communes is part of the section, promoting dialogue with the cantons and communes in cooperation with Executive Management.

COMMUNICATION (KO)

The Communication (KO) section responds to queries from the media and the public. It advises the specialist divisions on their communication requirements and coordinates media and public relations activities. It also ensures that energy issues are presented in a manner appropriate to the target audience, including on the SFOE's website, blog (energeiaplus.com) and social media channels (LinkedIn). The section oversees the publication process for a large number of multilingual reports, factsheets and other informational materials, ensuring quality control in coordination with the Publishing section.

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AFFAIRS (IN)

The International Energy Affairs (IN) section is responsible for international (non-nuclear) energy issues. It represents the SFOE on various committees within international energy organisations and manages bilateral energy relations with selected countries. The section also conducts negotiations with the European Union on energy issues, ensures coherence between Switzerland's domestic and foreign energy policies, and coordinates energy issues with Swiss donor agencies.

OUR RESOURCES

DETEC's administrative complex, which accommodates around 1,100 employees, is located in a section of the former Gurit-Worbla AG site in Ittigen, near Bern. In addition to housing the Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE), the four buildings that make up the DETEC complex are also home to the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA), the Federal Roads Office (FEDRO) and the Federal Office of Transport (FOT).

As of 1 January 2026, the SFOE employs 343 staff in 297,8 full-time positions, as well as 12 graduate interns, 3 commercial apprentices, 3 apprentices in mediamatics and one apprentice in ICT. The proportion of women is 44,9 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 78,7 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 2026, the SFOE has a global budget of around CHF 105 million and is planning transfer and investment expenditure totalling around CHF 580 million. Receipts of CHF 85 million are planned. The SFOE also administers the grid surcharge fund with a volume of around CHF 1,3 billion and the winter reserve totalling CHF 214 million.

SWISS FEDERAL OFFICE OF ENERGY SFOE
Pulverstrasse 13, CH-3063 Ittigen
Postal adress: Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE,
CH-3003 Bern
Phone +41 58 462 56 11
Fax +41 58 463 25 00
contact@bfe.admin.ch
www.bfe.admin.ch



- www.bfe.admin.ch
- www.energieschweiz.ch
- www.uvek.admin.ch
- www.ensi.ch
- www.kns.admin.ch
- www.esti.ch

WWW.ENERGEIAPLUS.COM

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE

09.2026