



3003 Bern, November, 25th 2016

Call for proposals
Research programme Energy-Economy-Society (EWG)

Dear researchers,

We would like to invite you to submit proposals for socio-economic research projects that start in summer 2017 and last for about 1-3 years. The projects should address relevant energy-policy questions for Switzerland in one of the following fields:

- **Mobility**
 - Determinants of demand for mobility (private and public transportation)
 - Demand for fuel efficient cars: Impact of policy measures and information on car choice, possibilities to shift preferences towards efficient cars
- **Impact and efficiency of instruments to reduce energy demand** (e.g. CO2 tax...)
 - Modelling and comparison of impact under different assumptions about information and consumer behaviour
 - The role and modelling of social and personal norms in energy related behaviour
 - Structural impact of measures and instruments
- **Industry demand for electricity and gas**
 - Empirical estimation of price elasticities
- **Gas market**
 - Future of the gas sector in Switzerland: demand by industry and households, transition pathways
- **Digitalisation**
 - Economic impact of digitalisation in energy markets

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE
Anne-Kathrin Faust
Mühlestrasse 4, 3063 Ittigen
Postal address: Swiss Federal Office of Energy, 3003 Bern
Tel. +41 58 462 56 11, Fax +41 58 463 25 00
Anne-Kathrin.Faust@bfe.admin.ch
www.bfe.admin.ch



The deadline for submission (to Anne-Kathrin.Faust@bfe.admin.ch) is **January 25, 2017**. Proposals from working-groups including specialists from different fields and collaboration between different institutions are welcome (the contact person should be specified).

Proposals should not be longer than 5 pages and contain the following information:

- main idea
- policy relevance
- methodology
- academic value added
- project team
- dissemination of results
- time plan and budget (please use the SFOE guidelines attached below for salaries; research projects are without VAT and overhead costs will not be accepted).

Projects involving PhD students are encouraged. Up to 2 PhD students per project may be funded by the Energy-Economy-Society research programme. The "methodology" paragraph should include data sources and data availability and quality. Please specifically indicate what academic publications are planned in the "dissemination of results" paragraph. If you have any question regarding the call, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We will evaluate the project proposals based on the criteria listed below and communicate the results of our evaluation in the course of February 2017. Evaluation is done in two rounds and applicants selected for the second round will be asked to hand in a more detailed research proposal of approximately 10 pages.

We look forward to your interesting proposals.

Yours sincerely

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE

Anne-Kathrin Faust

Head of the research programme energy-economy-society, www.ewg-bfe.ch



Evaluation Criteria (all criteria equally weighted but a minimum score must be obtained in categories A and B)

A. Objective and research question

1. Is the research question in one of the research fields listed in the call?
2. Is the research question well defined, ambitious and still realistic to be answered?
3. Will results lead to improvements in energetic, economic and/or energy policy terms?

B. Methodology and innovation content

4. Is the methodology clearly defined, “state of the art” and leading to the expected objective?
5. Are data and other „inputs“ of good quality?
6. How innovative is the project?

C. Organisation and budget

7. Is the organisation and the timetable leading to the objective?
8. Is the team experienced and shows significant contributions in the field of research?
9. Is the cost-benefit ratio OK?

D. Monitoring, dissemination and educational effects

10. Are monitoring and accompanying activities planned?
11. Are publications intended?
12. Are PhD students involved?



Maximum remuneration for activities carried out within the framework of SFOE energy research (Valid as of 1 January 2016)

Research mandates

Categorie	Universities and colleges of technology	CHF/h	Private organisations	CHF/h
A	Project manager Deputy	115 95	Specialist in management position	160
B	Scientist with at least 5 years of practical experience after obtaining his degree	80	Specialist with at least 5 years of practical experience	120
C	Scientific assistant	65	Specialist/Expert	100
D	Technician, programmer	60	Technician, programmer	90
E	Services provided by secretariat	50	Services provided by secretariat	75

A maximum of 20 per cent of the project time may be allocated to **project management** (category A). A maximum of 1,400 hours per person and year may be allocated to **scientific assistants** (category D). Maximum remuneration for **doctoral students at higher education institutions** is the amount of the actual wage costs (gross salary plus employer's contribution to social costs). If these are not listed, doctoral students will be paid at the SNSF¹ rate. In accordance with Article 16, paragraph 6, of the Federal Act of 14 December 2012 on the Promotion of Research and Innovation, no contributions towards overhead costs shall be paid.

Working hours

The applicable basis is 1,824 hours per person and year, or 152 hours per person and month.

Expenses

Travel: By rail: half-price first class; by car, CHF 0.70 per kilometre from place of work.

Accommodation: For overnight stays away from place of work, the effective costs will be remunerated based on middle-class accommodation (rate approx. CHF 180 per night).

Meals: Main meal, CHF 27.50; breakfast, CHF 14.

Fees for attending meetings (e.g. support groups, hearings)

Meetings up to 5 hours: maximum CHF 800, plus travel expenses.

Meetings lasting more than 5 hours: maximum 1,400, plus travel expenses.

These fees include time spent on preparation and follow-up processing of meetings, as well as travel time and meals. Fees for attending meetings will not be paid to Federal Administration personnel, cantonal and municipal employees (including professors) and representatives of associations and organisations. Compensation for members of the Federal Energy Research Commission (CORE) shall be based on the provisions of the Federal Government and Administration Ordinance.

State: February 2016

¹ www.snf.ch → Funding → Documents & downloads → Rates for employees rates for social security contributions (Annex I)"