

Policy on the management of greenhouse gas emissions and transition risks in the EVN Group

1 Purpose

We are aware of the impact of our activities on the climate and take our responsibility for climate change mitigation very seriously. This policy is intended to serve as a guideline for our efforts to identify, assess and manage the material impacts, risks and opportunities related to climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies. It defines the principles and processes that form the basis to monitor, control and mitigate our impacts on climate change. Our goal is to not only fulfil but – wherever possible – to exceed legal requirements.

This policy underscores our commitment to continuously improve our environmental practices through constant innovation and, in doing so, make a positive contribution to climate change mitigation. This commitment also reflects the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations (UN), which we have supported for many years.

2 Scope of application

This policy is valid and applicable to all material sustainable economic activities of the EVN Group in Austria and other countries unless specific national or legal limitations take precedence. The calculation of greenhouse gas emissions is based on the internationally recognised standards set by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol in the current version. The goals for the definition and implementation of the 1.5°C transition plan were established according to the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) methodology. No CO₂ compensations or credits were used to meet the 1.5°C goal.

The business areas of the EVN Group affected by this policy include the energy business with the generation of energy, the operation of distribution networks and the supply of electricity, natural gas and heat to our customers as well as thermal waste and sewage sludge utilisation. As a result of and in connection with these business areas, we are active on international markets. Moreover, our group is an internet- and telecommunication service provider with one subsidiary on the Austrian market.

In addition to our own commitment on behalf of climate protection and our measures to prevent or mitigate the impacts of our activities on the climate, we also expect our business partners, suppliers and customers to respect and support our efforts to reduce our ecological footprint. We cooperate, wherever possible, to minimise the ecological impacts of our joint activities and work to meet our environmental goals.

3 Material impacts, risks and opportunities of our activities

These principles of conduct and action lines concentrate on the focus topics identified during the annual update of the materiality analysis. They include all potential impacts, risks and opportunities resulting from the emission of greenhouse gases and the use or generation of energy. We recognise that our business activities can have material impacts on the climate: The generation of energy from fossil energy carriers results in direct greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, our activities as an electricity network operator and distributor lead to the indirect emission of greenhouse gases.

We believe in the early identification and proactive management of transition risks. In line with political and legal framework conditions, technological developments, market changes and concerns over our reputation, we also take account of scenarios that reflect the Paris Agreement, i.e. the 1.5°C goal, as well as physical climate risks.

4 Principles of conduct and action lines

The implementation of our measures in support of climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies is based on the following principles of conduct and action lines that apply to all our business activities:

- Application of the mitigation hierarchy principle: We are working to avoid our greenhouse gas emissions as far as possible and, if this is not possible, to minimise these emissions as well as our own energy consumption.

- Continuous monitoring and targeted actions: We monitor our greenhouse gas emissions, our energy consumption and the use of renewable energies on a continuous basis and track our progress in implementing the 1.5°C transition plan and realising our other goals.
- Regular survey of impacts, risks and opportunities: We regularly identify, quantify and assess the impacts, risks and opportunities of our activities and locations with regard to the climate, environment and society.
- Management of greenhouse gas emissions: We integrate the management of greenhouse gas emissions together with the definition of goals and metrics for their monitoring, control and auditing throughout the EVN Group.
- Continuous improvement: We rely on the best available technologies and proven procedures during the construction, operation and decommissioning of plants and search for innovative solutions to further reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our energy consumption.
- Compliance: We are committed to compliance with all relevant legal regulations and standards. Wherever possible, we work to exceed mandatory requirements.
- Preventive measures: In the event of environmentally relevant incidents, we always act in accordance with the requirements of local emergency and hazard prevention plans as well as EVN's own crisis management. Prescribed reporting and action chains are always followed. Appropriate instructions are always accessible to all employees in the Intranet or on information boards in the respective organisational units. Fast handling capabilities are supported by regular training for emergency situations.
- Responsibility: Each employee is responsible for minimising the environmental influences connected with his or her activities. The heads of the organisational units are responsible for compliance with legal and internal regulations on environmental protection. Regular training increases awareness and provides our specialists with detailed information on these topics.

5 We use the following measures to keep interested parties informed:

- Transparent reporting: We report transparently on the impacts of our business activities on the climate and environment to citizens, institutions and other interest groups and provide information on our measures and success as regards climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, energy efficiency and the use of energy from renewable sources.
- Open communications: We promote a culture of open communications and encourage all employees to submit suggestions for the improvement of our environmental performance and to express any possible concerns.
- Inclusive stakeholder management: We work together with our stakeholders and incorporate their needs and expectations concerning climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies.

6 Responsibility

The Executive Board of the EVN Group represents the highest level of the company's organisation that is responsible for the implementation of this policy.

The Executive Board of EVN AG

Stefan Szyszkowitz
Sprecher des Vorstands

Alexandra Wittmann
Mitglied des Vorstands

Stefan Stallinger
Mitglied des Vorstands