



Empowering Renewable and Citizen Energy Communities

Newsletter #4

September 2025

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Dear Reader,

welcome to the new version of our POWER-E-COM Newsletter.

Over the last months, POWER-E-COM partners across Europe have been busy driving forward community energy initiatives. From local events to pioneering Energy Communities, our project is bringing citizens, businesses, and municipalities together to shape a cleaner and fairer energy future.

The POWER-E-COM project aims to foster cooperation between regional/local authorities and citizens to establish Energy Community projects in six different European countries. By supporting the development of models and tools that facilitate the creation of Energy Communities, the project aims to empower citizens to take a more active role in the clean energy transition.

Follow us on power-e-com.eu

We hope you enjoy learning more about POWER-E-COM!



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POWER-E-COM aims

POWER-E-COM aims to foster the development of the Energy Communities by providing support and guidance to municipalities, existing Energy Communities, and engaged citizens.

DURATION:

01/10/2023 – 30/9/2026

Read more on
POWER-E-COM:

<http://power-e-com.eu/>



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the European Union

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Shaping Change Locally: Stories from POWER-E-COM Pilot Countries

Our pilot region videos share inspiring stories of local energy communities coming together to create sustainable solutions and accelerate the path to climate neutrality. These short films highlight how collaboration between citizens, municipalities, and businesses is turning ideas into real action—showing that the energy transition starts locally.

Click below to watch the videos and discover stories of community initiatives, shared knowledge, and hands-on experiences from the POWER-E-COM project.



Local Heat, Local Action: How a Bavarian village is Building a Community-Based Heating Network



Driving Rural Energy Action: Community Energy in Villarrobledo



Mentoring Across Borders: How Peer Learning Is Powering Energy Communities



Supporting Energy Communities in Upper Austria



Community Power in Spain: The Story of Montilla Renewable



Upper Austria: Leading the Way with Over 1.000 Energy Communities

Dive Deeper also with Our Podcasts

Alongside the videos, our **podcast series** – [Spanish](#) and [German](#) offers even more insights into building and running energy communities. Listen to expert advice, success stories, and practical tips—anytime, anywhere.

Explore the podcasts on our project website and get inspired to shape your own energy future.



Events & News

Shaping the Local Energy Future – Together!

In Bavaria, municipal utilities met at an exchange hosted by Civic Foundation Energiewende Oberland to tackle energy transition challenges.

Key insight: Energy Communities and energy sharing are true game changers. They empower citizens, strengthen resilience, and are already technically feasible. What's still missing? Clear frameworks and smart meters to fully unlock their potential.



Gabrovo pioneers Bulgaria's Energy Communities

The Municipality of Gabrovo has emerged as a real pioneer, now home to two of Bulgaria's five registered Energy Communities. By uniting citizens, businesses, and institutions, the city is creating affordable and sustainable energy models—proving that local action sparks nationwide change.

Why is this important?

Energy Communities are not just about technology – they provide a path to energy independence, social solidarity, and a better quality of life for everyone.



Energy Communities on the Agenda at Maribor Business Breakfast

At a business breakfast hosted by the Štajerska Chamber of Commerce, ENERGAP presented how Energy Communities can lower electricity bills and boost energy independence. About 22 company representatives joined the event, part of POWER-E-COM's European training programme. Discussions focused on new grid tariffs, legal frameworks, and successful case studies. The session sparked lively debate and networking, showing how businesses can play a leading role in the green transition.



Webinar on Energy Communities in Europe

On 29 April 2025, POWER-E-COM and the LIFE ISLET project hosted a webinar on what drives successful Energy Communities. Experts from across Europe shared insights on future visions, best practices, island experiences, and EU-level support. The event underlined the importance of collaboration and clear frameworks for empowering communities in the energy transition.

WEBINAR ALERT

Development and replication of "in-land" and "on-island" renewable energy communities in Europe

29 April 2025
11:00-12:30 CEST
Online

Register now!





POWER-E-COM at the EirGrid Energy Citizens Roadshow

POWER-E-COM participated in the EirGrid Energy Citizens Roadshow in Cashel, meeting local people and community groups. The team shared ideas on citizen-led energy and listened to community concerns.

Experts including Seán Kelly (ESB Network), Gearóid Fitzgibbon (SEAI), Matthew Staunton (EirGrid Group), and Clare Lee (Tipperary County Council) provided valuable insights on grid operations and community supports. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration between citizens, experts, and local authorities. Together, these efforts are paving the way for a more sustainable and community-driven energy future.



Agri-PV in Action: Energy and Farming Hand in Hand

In Peissenberg, Bavaria, our German partner Civic Foundation Energiewende Oberland hosted a study visit to one of the region's most innovative Agri-Photovoltaic (Agri-PV) installations.

Developed by the local cooperative Energiegenossenschaft Oberland eG, the system shows how renewable energy and agriculture can thrive together on the same land.

The event gathered representatives from politics, farming, energy, and local communities to see first-hand how Agri-PV not only generates clean electricity but also improves soil protection and microclimate conditions. A great example of the energy transition in action!



Irish partners meet in Nenagh

POWER-E-COM partners gathered at Tipperary Energy Agency to plan next steps and welcome new team member James Dooley. With the European consortium meeting in Tipperary this October, exciting developments are on the horizon.

Project Partner Meeting

Next Project meeting will be from 14 to 15 October 2025 in Thurles, Ireland.



A project press release was released across six countries

From Bulgaria to Spain and Ireland, POWER-E-COM partners shared inspiring stories of community-driven renewable energy. This press release underlined how collaboration and innovation are turning local ambition into real impact across Europe.

Want to Start Your Own Energy Community? The Training Pack is Here!

Good news for citizens, municipalities, and businesses across Europe.

The brand-new Energy Community Training Pack is now available on power-e-com.eu

Whether you're in Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Ireland, Slovenia, or Spain, you can now access practical guidance, real-life examples, and expert tools to help you set up and grow your own Energy Community.

Here's what you'll find:

- ✓ Austria – clear legal guidance, funding advice, and hands-on support from energy agencies.
- ✓ Bulgaria – inclusive training on renewables, efficiency, and cost savings.
- ✓ Germany – citizen-led models, financing know-how, and even a podcast series!
- ✓ Ireland – interactive sessions to engage your community and build strong business models.
- ✓ Slovenia – insights into legal forms, green financing, and inclusive participation.
- ✓ Spain – planning tools, funding options (including crowdfunding), and risk management tips.

With 10 training modules, case studies, and interactive formats, this pack gives you everything you need to turn local ideas into real community power.

LET'S STAY IN CONTACT!

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