



Gratkorn Mill to warm households in city of Graz

Starting in December, and continuing for at least the next 20 years, industrial waste heat from Gratkorn Mill will be used to heat 18,000 households in the city of Graz, 9km away. The heat will be fed into the city's existing district heating system by new underground pipes. The district heating water, which will be kept at a temperature of 120°C, will then be pumped into the city.

Local energy provider Bioenergie Wärmeservice GmbH (BWS) will control water pressure, temperature and volumes. BWS is also investing in the district heating outcoupling system and a pumping station. This is necessary in order to feed the water into the district heating system. This equipment is currently being installed on the mill grounds.

"We have agreed to supply heat for the next 20 years," says Christian Roth, Project Manager Sappi. "It's a good solution for both sides. We get more income from our energy; and the city of Graz gets cleaner energy than before." Thanks to the mill's efficient combined heat and power plant and the outcoupling of ecological valuable heat, 20,000 fewer tonnes of CO₂ will be emitted per year.