



POST OF 20/07/2026

The 50 per cent condition: The furnace in reinvestment planning

The Industriestrompreis (German subsidised industrial electricity price; in force since January 2026, around 5 cents per kilowatt hour for up to half of consumption, limited until 2028) carries a condition: at least 50 per cent of the benefit amount must be reinvested within 48 months in decarbonisation measures in Germany.

Recognised measures include, among others, energy efficiency measures with an effect on electricity demand as well as the use of industrial waste heat — and this is exactly where the furnace comes in.

What this means for furnace operators

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| ☐ Electrically heated furnace | a better lining directly reduces electricity demand -> relevant in principle |
| ☐ Gas-fired furnace | the same measure reduces gas consumption -> commercially sensible, but not automatically eligible under this guideline |
| ☐ Order of magnitude | old fireclay 80–120 °C shell temperature, layered fibre construction 45–60 °C — depending on the initial condition, 10–20 % less energy input |
| ☐ Electrification planned? | plan heating and lining together — separately it costs two shutdowns |
| ☐ Waste heat | the furnace shell is the most easily measurable source of loss: thermography before/after, documented |
| ☐ Classification | whether a measure is eligible is decided by the energy consultancy and the BAFA (German Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control) — not by the refractory contractor |



Finished monolithic lining with clean connections



The furnace shell is the most measurable source of loss

Common mistakes

- "Refractory work is eligible for funding" passed on in abbreviated form — the guideline differentiates according to the effect on electricity demand.
- Losing sight of the reinvestment deadline: 48 months sounds long and is short in terms of shutdown planning.
- The measure is implemented but not documented in measurable form — without before/after, the evidence is missing.

PRACTICAL NOTE

If your company receives the Industriestrompreis: put the furnace on the list of reinvestment candidates and have eligibility checked early. We supply the technical part and the documentation.

Questions about your furnace?

We assess lining, zones and condition — with a reply within 24 hours on working days.

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