

## Unleashing the potential of municipal utilities

*Düsseldorf, April 23, 2024 - With the energy transition, municipal utilities are also facing a mammoth task. The necessary investments are huge and their realization will be a stress test for their structures. This is where the private sector can help. "Support for municipal utilities is provided in particular by those private players in the energy transition who not only have expertise in project development, but also in the structuring and financing of projects," comments Markus W. Voigt, CEO of the aream Group.*

Municipal utilities have always played a central role in supplying the population and companies with electricity and heat. However, the energy transition poses enormous challenges for their structures - in all relevant sectors and in sector coupling. By 2030, municipal utilities alone will need to invest an additional 600 billion euros in the energy transition. Participating in green power generation appears to be a mammoth task alongside the mandatory heat planning.

"The municipal utilities will not be able to manage the energy transition on their own," says Voigt. "The municipalities will not be able to provide billions in equity capital." This is where the private sector comes into play. On the one hand, private investors can manage the financing of the projects. On the other hand, they can contribute their expertise in project realization: companies that also act as project developers can relieve the burden on municipal utilities in their structures. "This frees up capacity at the municipal utilities so that they can concentrate on their original task and the additional task of the heating transition," explains Voigt.

Sustainable cooperation between municipal utilities and private investors can therefore mean a win-win situation: municipal effectiveness for the municipal utilities and local authorities and acceptance of the renewable energy projects for the investors. "The municipal utilities can promote the energy transition locally and gain the approval of the population," says Voigt. This alone increases the value of the projects. "This potential must be unleashed."

### **About the aream Group**

aream Group, founded in 2005, is an investment and asset manager for institutional investors and industrial clients with a focus on sustainable infrastructure in the renewable energy sector. With its three divisions Fund and Asset Management, Project Development and Operation Management, aream covers the entire value chain for renewable energy investments. With a transaction volume of more than 2.5 billion euros, aream is one of the leading asset managers in this market, and its own portfolio of plants generates around 40 million euros worth of green electricity per year. Since 2008, aream has produced more than one billion kWh of green electricity. As part of the growth strategy, several solar and wind parks are to be realized or acquired in the coming years. Through its own project development alone, aream currently has a long development pipeline with great potential. Further information: [www.arem.de](http://www.arem.de).

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