

Coal subsidised with 10bn euros a year in EU: study

November 13 2015



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EU states are subsidising climate-harming coal to the tune of 10 billion euros (\$10.7 billion) a year, according to a German study due to be released next week.

In Germany alone, the coal sector receives 3.7 billion euros of [public money](#) annually, according to the study by think tank the Heinrich Boell

Foundation and environmental group Friends of the Earth, which gave excerpts to AFP.

The two groups calculated that between 1990 and 2007, some 200 billion euros in state subsidies had fuelled the EU coal sector, distorting the energy market, according to the study due to be officially released next week in Brussels.

Ahead of the COP21 climate summit in Paris, the organisations called on European governments to stop supporting the highly polluting fossil fuel.

In Germany, which is shuttering its nuclear plants while boosting renewables such as wind and solar, the [coal industry](#) still accounts for over 40 percent of national electricity output.

Some EU countries, including Poland, are clinging to their coal sectors, even as others are trying to phase it out as the bloc seeks to slash carbon emissions by 40 percent by 2020 from 1990 levels.

Last June Norway's 800-billion-euro sovereign fund decided to stop its investments in [coal](#).

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Citation: Coal subsidised with 10bn euros a year in EU: study (2015, November 13) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2015-11-coal-subsidised-10bn-euros-year.html>

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