



Press Release

27 September 2013

"Clarity of facts presents opportunity to prevent serious consequences"

Prof. Wolfgang Feist, Passive House Institute, on the IPCC Climate Change Report

Darmstadt/Vancouver. "Science is now in the position to acknowledge the influence of human activities on the climate. The clarity of the facts presents an opportunity to prevent serious consequences," observes Professor Dr. Wolfgang Feist, Director of the Passive House Institute, with regard to the latest IPCC report presented today (Friday) in Stockholm.

"There are many examples demonstrating how societies can draw the right conclusions on the basis of scientific facts: acid rain, ozone depletion, smoking. In retrospect, it often becomes clear how misguided resistance by interest groups is. Seen objectively, their actions frequently even damage their own causes," adds Feist, who with the construction of the first Passive House some 20 years ago served to drive development in energy efficient building.

In industrialised countries, the operation of buildings accounts for more than a third of total energy consumption. Passive House buildings reduce this energy demand, mostly due to heating, by up to 90 percent. Additional capital investment during the construction phase is compensated in just a few years by extremely low running costs. Passive House buildings thus not only make a significant contribution to climate protection, they are economically attractive for owners and users alike. "There is no longer any scientifically-founded doubt that the planet's climate is changing due to rising CO₂ emissions," states Feist, who is currently attending the Passive House North 2013 Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

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