

Pure quality.

CO2 declaration of Kalkfabrik Netstal

The effects of climate change can be strongly felt in Switzerland already. That we humans are co-responsible for this is considered proven in the scientific world. If mankind cannot take targeted measures aimed at climate protection, climate change will manifest itself even more strongly: rising temperatures, dryer summers and phases of heavy precipitations are likely, according to the CH-2018 climate scenarios.

Being part of the lime industry, KFN takes its responsibility when it comes to climate protection very seriously. We are subject to the European emissions trading scheme, voluntarily follow the program of the Energy Agency of the Swiss Private Sector (Energie-Agentur der Wirtschaft, EnAW) and thus commit ourselves to actively reducing our CO2 emissions. What is more, we support the efforts of Switzerland and follow all the legal requirements, take an active role as a member of the Federal Association of the German Lime Industry in shaping the CO2 roadmap of the lime industry 2050, and we have our own sustainability concept. This is how we follow a consequent path towards lowering our CO2 emissions in line with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement, and we plan to do more, to become a climate positive industry in the long run.

Lime is extremely important for our economy to function. Lime is used, inter alia, in several industries, in construction, for the production of pharmaceuticals and chemicals, serves environment protection and is part of the foodmaking process. The production processes of our white lime products are energy intensive, burning lime invariably releases CO2. We have, however, continually optimized our processes over the course of the past decades. Thanks to new technologies and the switch to natural gas as fuel we managed to lower our CO2 emissions since 1990 by 50 per cent, 30 percentage points alone in the past eight years. We want to follow this path in the future as well.

To really become climate positive as a part of the lime industry, two more issues are central. Apart from avoiding CO2, carbon dioxide is planned to be captured directly in the kiln or in separation reactors, to be either stored or re-used later on. KFN supports research in this direction and invests in pioneer projects, which will help serve the entire industry. Additionally, our products should play their role as a CO2 trap in a positive way more actively in the future, such as in sewage treatment or biogas plants. In so doing, it can become possible to totally offset the CO2 released in the balance – and to become climate positive in the long run.

Keeping our own efforts and those by the entire lime industry in mind, we are optimistic to reach the set goals. We benefit from the fact that we have been dealing with these issues for a long time now and from past efforts. We currently run facilities that belong to the top 10 per cent in Europe when it comes to energy efficiency.





