



Why the Gjefsen family chose a geo-thermal heat pump



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The family

The Gjefsen family chose a geo-thermal heat pump for their new house. Explaining their decision, they cited two deciding factors: first, that winter temperatures in this part of Norway can fall as low

as minus 25 degrees Celsius and secondly, that electricity prices are set to fluctuate considerably over the next 30 years. Now, they will be able to enjoy free heat without worrying about rising energy prices.



The Gjefsen family



The Gjefsen's daughters



Kjell Ivar Kristiansen from SK Rør, installation company and Thor Erik Gjefsen home owner

Economists spot a smart long-term investment

The two-story detached house is in a new residential area in Brandbu, about 70km north of Oslo. The 30 homeowners involved in this phase of the project all opted for different heating solutions. As Camilla and Thor Erik are both economics graduates, they were quick to come to conclude that geothermal heating was the way forward. "Compared to some alternatives, this choice may seem a little more expensive. However, the long term returns are worth it. We have chosen a heating solution that is basically climate neutral", explained Thor Erik and added:

"We have stability. We no longer need to worry about whether electricity prices will rise". Camilla continued: "We were both decided on floor heating, we needed it. It provides the best comfort in a cold winter, without doubt. The only question that remained was the heat source: electricity or water. Water was the obvious choice".

Virtually silent operation

A small room behind the kitchen is the only place where the heating system can be seen, with pipes and couplings showing where 250 liters of hot water are circulated in an enclosed system. The ground heat is exchanged in the Thermia heat pump, providing

heating for both the hot water tank and the floors. The system is almost silent. "When the kids have settled down and it is quiet in the house, all you can hear is the low hum of the system regulating the heat, which all works automatically", said Thor Erik.

Detached house:

Wooden house built in 2012

Living space: 250 m²

Location: Brandbu, Norway

Occupants:

Two adults and two children

Heat source: Borehole

Heat pump: Thermia Diplomat

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