

Germany Mining Law

Since 1987, the German government decided that lignite is a safe and sustainable raw material for power generation. Subsequently, the government announced that it wants to completely **destroy the Garzweiler region** in order to promote the underlying lignite. Until 2023, we can "voluntarily" sell our homes to the RWE Group. **If we do not do that then we will be expropriated and evicted by the government.** If the German government finally started with a sustainable energy transition, then **we would not have to be evicted for burning lignite.** We are also losing very old churches and monuments

In 2008, a resident of a already destroyed village moved to court. Unfortunately he lost the case. 9 families from the threatened villages have joined forces to form the community "**Human Rights before Mountain Right**". They have bought a plot that lies directly between the lignite mine and the threatened village Keyenberg. They have signed a contract with each other stating that they will not sell the property to the RWE Group at any price. The community is ready to go before the **German Constitutional Court** to clarify whether it is still constitutional - in the **face of the climate crisis**, the coalition exit and the Paris climate protection goals - to evict and expropriate people to process climate-damaging lignite. They will not leave their homes until this question has been settled.

Evictions Session on Climate Change

As an alternative we are offered a new building area on the edge of the next town. The area is located between a highway and a train line and has nothing to do with an old grown village. **At the new place there are no fields for farms.** Because many people from the villages work as farmers, they would lose their jobs if they moved to the new area. In addition, there are **many old people** in our villages who would not survive if they had to leave home at the age of 90, where their own family has been living for several generations. And even if you want to move to the new place, **then the money that RWE pays is not enough to build an equivalent house there.** There are no sensible alternatives because we do not want to leave our houses. But there are safe and sensible alternatives to producing electricity than burning lignite.



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