Dear Passive House Community,

It is with great pleasure that I took on the patronage of the 25th International Passive House Conference, held 2021 in Wuppertal. As co-organisers – along with the NRW Energy Agency – we are extremely delighted that North Rhine-Westphalia is hosting this event for the third time.

Buildings are the source of a good deal of carbon dioxide emissions worldwide. This goes for North Rhine-Westphalia, too, where they account for a quarter of the output. We have been working since the 1990s to reduce such emissions by promoting solar and climate-friendly building design and through targeted funding of passive-house projects.

When it comes to making strides in global climate action, energy-efficient construction is going to be an issue of increasing relevance. It is therefore becoming all the more important to have a dialogue on both state of play and outlook. The International Passive House Conference is an excellent forum for this.

In 25 years, the conference has evolved as the Number One platform for energy-efficient construction around the world. Researchers, planners, various industry groups from the construction and housing sectors as well as political and government deciders combine to create opportunity and incentive for cooperation, knowledge transfer and innovation.

Due to the Covid pandemic, the 2020 Passive House Conference was held entirely online. There is hope that advances in dealing with Coronavirus will make it possible for us to welcome you in person in Wuppertal, at the heart of North Rhine-Westphalia, this coming September.

Please accept my best wishes for a most productive and enjoyable event.

Professor Dr Andreas Pinkwart

Minister for Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalization and Energy of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia