On December 16, 2015, the IFRT Staff had a scientific visit to the RDK 8 (Rheinhafen-Dampfkraftwerks Karlsruhe 8) of the EnBW (Energie Baden-Württemberg AG). The EnBW operates as one of the largest integrated energy supply companies in Germany and the rest of Europe. It operates through four segments: Sales, Grids, Renewable Energies, and Generation and Trading. It supplies electricity, gas, water and energy-related products and services to approximately 5.5 million customers. It serves both businesses and private customers.

In the first half the ENBW and the power plant side in Karlsruhe were presented. After a small pause the new RDK 8 was visited. The technology is the newest of the coal power plants. It has an electric efficiency of 46%, because it is working in the supercritical region of the coolant water. It was very impressive to see the biggest electric generator (912 MW) ever built, which is driven by a turbine with 600°C hot water at 280 bar at the inlet. It is also possible to supply Karlsruhe with district heat. To maintain their power the power plant side needs 1100 tons of coal every day. We also had a great view over Karlsruhe, the Rhein and the region around the power plant.