



# NEWSLETTER

*By the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC)  
the umbrella organisation representing the main European industry, trade and research associations  
[www.erec-renewables.org](http://www.erec-renewables.org)*

**- February 2004 -**

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## NEWS from EREC

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### European Conference for Renewable Energy – Intelligent Policy Options (19-21 January 2004)

About 650 participants coming from 45 countries, among which all actual Member States were represented and eight out of ten from the Accession Countries, attended the high-level European Conference for Renewable Energy (19-21 January 2004) to discuss “Intelligent Policy Options”, evaluating past experience made to increase renewable energy sources (including the impact of the political measures implemented to date at Community, national and local level) to define the best instruments to accelerate the development of RES up to 2010 and beyond.

Conclusions of the main achievements at the end of each session, as well as final conclusions of the three-day conference were summarised. The overall conclusions play the major role to act as input for the International Conference for Renewable Energy in Bonn on the 1-4 June 2004 ([www.renewables2004.de](http://www.renewables2004.de)), reflecting the voice of the European preparatory meeting to Bonn, and as policy recommendation for the EU. One of the main aspects is the input from EREC for the 20% target of gross inland energy consumption for 2020 proposed as a longer-term feasible target for renewable energy sources in Europe. Targets are seen to be an important policy instruments to untap RE, securing among others a stable framework for private-sector investments.

*All related information to the Berlin conference can be consulted under [www.erec-renewables.org](http://www.erec-renewables.org). The full video recordings are available at: [www.managenergy.org/archive](http://www.managenergy.org/archive)*

### Presentation of the new targets

New projections presented by EREC on behalf of the RE industry’s point of view show that the use of renewable technologies could expand to satisfy 20% of Europe’s energy demand by 2020, a substantial increase from their present level. Prof. Arthouros Zervos, President of EREC confirmed the following elements: 1) the White Paper target of 12% RE by 2010 will be achieved if specific additional support actions are taken, especially in the heating and cooling sector; 2) the target of 22,1% of electricity from renewables will be met if measures set out in the EU Renewables Directive are fully transposed and some additional measures are taken; 3) a contribution from renewables to total energy consumption of 20% by 2020 is possible.

In another occasion, Romano Prodi, European Commission President said, talking about the electricity target that “the target of 22% electricity for 2010 is a difficult one to meet” but that “it is still far to modest if we are to meet the goals of sustainability laid down at Kyoto and achieve strategic independence in terms of energy supply”.

In a bilateral meeting that took place after the Berlin conference between German Environment Minister Jürgen Trittin and French Environment Minister, Roselyne Bachelot, the two jointly demanded that the EU adopts a target of sourcing 20% of all energy from renewables by 2020 (Environment Daily: Issue1601, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2004)

*The full document presenting the targets published by EREC and the related press release are to be found under: [www.erec-renewables.org](http://www.erec-renewables.org)*

### Market Development analysis

A highly expected publication is to come out in April 2004, prepared by EREC in coordination with James and James, giving easy-reading, objective and reliable information on the achievements and barriers to a larger deployment of RE in Europe. The book is mainly targeted towards policy-decision makers at all levels. A draft document of the “Renewable Energy in Europe – Building markets and capacity” has already been given to the participants attending the Berlin conference in January 2004. The complete book to be published will present an overview of the latest technological, financial and economic information on renewable energy technologies. Analysing the progress achieved at the end of 2003 focusing on market aspects of the development of RE in the EU, the book’s main focus is to demonstrate how RES could play a more significant role in the European Union energy balance than attributed so far, a role that would correspond to their great potential.

*For more information contact Loïc Blanchard at EREC: [blanchard@erec-renewables.org](mailto:blanchard@erec-renewables.org), T: +32 2 546 1936*

## RES in EU and CC - workshops

In the framework of the project "Promotion and market stimulation of RES in the European Union and Candidate Countries" coordinated by EREC, several workshops take place this spring in the Accession Countries. Those workshops will provide advice to the Accession States in creating policies and programmes to facilitate energy generation from RES in these countries and ensure that their future initiatives in this sector are coherent with EU policies.

For more information, please contact Loïc Blanchard at EREC: [blanchard@erec-renewables.org](mailto:blanchard@erec-renewables.org), T: +32 2 546 1936

## Understand the reasons of success of energy sustainable communities and promote their replication

EREC is coordinating an FP5 project on Sustainable Communities in Europe to determine the key elements triggering successful sustainable energy behaviours in a community, and to advise key decision-takers on their energy programmes to make sure they encompass not only technical and political aspects, but also the socio-economic ones, all three aspects playing a major role in accelerating the development of sustainable communities. A workshop open to the public will be held in Bratislava on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the specific characteristics of Central and Eastern European communities on their way to sustainable use of energy and use of sustainable energy. The final output will lead to the publication of a guide and to the organization of a conference on sustainable communities, combined with the EC funding programme of the first CONCERTO communities under FP6.

Any person interested in attending the workshop is invited to contact Jolanda Crettaz at EREC: [crettaz@erec-renewables.org](mailto:crettaz@erec-renewables.org); T: +32 2 546 1946

## Technology Centre in Russia starts its activity

In line with the EU-Russia Energy Dialogue, the European Commission has set up a Technology Centre in Moscow in 2002 which serves as contact point for Russian and European companies active in the field of hydrocarbons, coal and electricity as well as renewable energy and energy efficiency and should facilitate co-operation and technology transfer between the European Union and the Russian Federation. EREC is responsible for providing expertise in the field of renewable energy sources. Two Co-Directors were appointed for the Technology Centre: Torsten Woellert as EC Co-Director and Yuri Malakh as Russian Co-Director.

For further information and a more detailed description of activities please check out the EREC website under [http://www.erec-renewables.org/projects/proj\\_ETC-Russia.htm](http://www.erec-renewables.org/projects/proj_ETC-Russia.htm) or contact Christine Lins at +32 2 546 1933

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## NEWS from EREC MEMBERS

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### EU urged to promote Renewable Energies for Heating and Cooling

In a joint declaration coordinated by the European Solar Thermal Industry Federation (ESTIF) and presented at the European Conference for Renewable Energy, a broad coalition of European industry and research associations as well as leading environmental NGOs calls for action at EU and national level. The 9 organisations signing the joint declaration warn that the European targets will be missed if strong and coherent policies to promote renewable heating and cooling sources are not introduced soon. These policies should include: Specific targets for renewable heating & cooling at European level and in the Member States; Financial incentives, regulations and other market stimulation tools strong enough to achieve these targets; Increased focus on renewable heating and cooling in R&D programs; Launch of a high level discussion with all stakeholders to define which elements should be tackled at regional, national or European level.

More info [http://www.estif.org/fileadmin/downloads/press/ESTIF\\_pr\\_040115.doc](http://www.estif.org/fileadmin/downloads/press/ESTIF_pr_040115.doc)

## **First industry-wide coordinated R&D strategy launched by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA)**

Wind power: first industry-wide coordinated R&D strategy launched in Brussels on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2004. The European Commissioner for Research, Philippe Busquin said that “wind power is a prime example of how an ambitious European R&D effort, supported by the EU for more than 20 years, can give Europe a very strong leadership in a promising high-technology market...” And that “EWEA’s R&D strategy will now be an important reference for our activities in order to maintain Europe’s technological and industrial leadership in the future”.

<http://www.ewea.org/documents/0127%20-%20RD%20release%20final.pdf>

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## **NEWS from the EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS**

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### **Intelligent Energy for Europe (EIE)**

The European Commission is organising a 2<sup>nd</sup> information day on the ongoing EIE Call for proposals. This 2<sup>nd</sup> info day will take place in Brussels on 24 February 2004 from 10:00-14:00.

[Internet transmission](#)

More info: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/index_en.html) or “tren-intelligentenergy@cec.eu.int”

[Information days in Member States and participating countries:](#)

[Application form and model agreements for type 1 and type 2 actions with deadline 30 April 2004](#)

### **Energy taxes**

The European Commission has proposed a transitional period for Accession Countries in order to allow to apply taxes on various energy products at rates lower than specified in the EU energy tax framework directive. Only Cyprus will not benefit from this amendment having not applied for the derogation. Most taxes will however have to be gradually aligned with EU minima and all derogations will end by 2012. Several existing EU states won similar exemptions.

While some Accession Countries already comply with the EU minimum excise duty rates on energy products in at least some areas, other countries' rates have not yet been aligned.

This new Directive will not have much impact on the renewable energy markets due to the many exemptions, the low minimum tax levels and the lack of mandatory renewables exemptions as proposed by the European Parliament.

[Final proposal for a directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services](#) (28<sup>th</sup> January 2004)

### **Directive on the promotion of cogeneration**

The Council approved on the 26<sup>th</sup> January all the amendments adopted by the European Parliament in second reading concerning the Directive on the promotion of co-generation based on useful heat demand, enabling the activation of a key component of the EU strategy for energy efficiency and energy savings and for contributing to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and increase in security of supply.

The major elements concluded after negotiation were, on one hand, the Council's acceptance of the definition of micro-generation as being plants with a maximum output below 50 kWe; on the other hand the European Parliament's final agreement on the calculation methods and timetables. At last the EP and the Council have agreed that Member States should be obliged to evaluate their national potential for cogeneration and report their findings to the Commission.

[“General Affairs” presenting the report of the 2558<sup>th</sup> Council meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> January](#)

## Publications

Some very interesting publications have been issued recently by **DG Research** among others:

[Renewable Energy Technologies and Kyoto Protocol Mechanisms](#)

[The European Photovoltaics project \(1999-2002\)](#)

[More information on recent publications done by DG Research](#)

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## EVENTS organized by EREC or MEMBERS

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### **EWEA - The Science of Making Torque from Wind - Special Topic Conference**

April 19-21, 2004, TU Delft, The Netherlands

More info: [conference@duwind.tudelft.nl](mailto:conference@duwind.tudelft.nl) or

[www.eawe.org/SpecialTopicConference/callforabstracts2004SpecialTopicConf.html](http://www.eawe.org/SpecialTopicConference/callforabstracts2004SpecialTopicConf.html)

### **Hydroenergia 2004 International Conference and Exhibition on Small Hydropower**

17-19 June 2004, Falkenberg, Sweden

More info under: <http://www.esha.be/>

### **19th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition**

7-11 June 2004, Paris, France

Contact: [pv.conf@wip-munich.de](mailto:pv.conf@wip-munich.de) or consult: [www.photovoltaic-conference.com](http://www.photovoltaic-conference.com)

### **Biomass - 2nd World Conference and Technology Exhibition on Biomass for Energy, Industry and Climate Protection**

10-14/5/2004, Rome, Italy

More information under: <http://www.conference-biomass.com/>

*Please send your comments, update your profile or unsubscribe by sending an email to:*

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