



## European Renewable Energy Council

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## Eurelectric fails to tackle climate change

**Brussels, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009. The European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) comments on the Eurelectric “Power Choices: Pathways to carbon-neutral European electricity by 2050” as presented today in the European Parliament.**

Commenting on Eurelectric’s “Power Choices” study, Arthouros Zervos, President of the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC), stated: “Eurelectric’s choice is insufficient, unambitious and outdated.”

“According to Eurelectric’s scenarios CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power generation in 2050 still amount to about 130 to 500 Mt. Carbon neutrality in the electricity sector is not sufficient to meet the EU’s goal to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions by 80 to 95 per cent in 2050. What we need is a carbon-free power sector with a sustainable demand side management”, commented Arthouros Zervos.

“Eurelectric is unambitious as renewable energy can and will produce far more energy than their study recognises. It is hard to understand why Eurelectric assumes it will take until 2050 to reach about one third of renewable energy electricity given that the European Commission itself believes that we will reach a share of 33 per cent already thirty years earlier – in 2020”, underlines Arthouros Zervos, President of EREC.

“In addition, the study is outdated as it assumes an overall share of renewable energy in 2020 of about 14 per cent of the EU’s energy demand, thereby totally ignoring the fact that 27 EU Heads of States agreed on a legally binding target of at least 20 per cent renewable energy by 2020 – a target clearly enshrined in the new Renewable Energy Directive”, added Arthouros Zervos.

“If the EU is set to fulfil its commitment to tackle climate change and increase security of supply, the rapid realisation of a fully renewable energy power sector is the only way forward – Eurelectric’s power choice should acknowledge this”, concludes the President of EREC, Arthouros Zervos.

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EREC, the European Renewable Energy Council, is the umbrella organisation of the major European renewable energy industry, trade and research associations active in the field of photovoltaics, small hydropower, solar thermal, bioenergy, ocean & marine, geothermal, wind energy, solar thermal electricity and biofuels. It represents an industry with an annual turnover of more than 45 billion € and more than 450.000 employees.