



Dear members, dear friends,

Please find below the fifth edition of the AER Energy newsletter. We can look back on two successful meetings organised by the AER 'Regional Policies' committee on 2 and 3 October 2006. With the Committee's plenary meeting where the AER answer to the Green Paper was officially adopted, and a successful meeting of the working group on energy, the AER has made significant progress in its activities in the field of energy. The AER answer to the Green Paper on energy is now officially adopted and has been sent to Commissioner Piebalgs. However, we still welcome your feedback and input on the AER answer to the Green Paper because we hope to arrange a meeting with the Commissioner. Feel free to provide us with additional remarks that we can bring to this meeting. The meeting of the working group on Energy has inspired us with new insights and work plans for the future, so please refer to the newsletter for more information.

We wish you a good reading!

Best regards,

The AER Committee C 'Regional policies' Secretariat

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If you wish to publish any relevant information from your Region on energy, do not hesitate to contact us. Take advantage of our large database! We will integrate it in our Newsletter and inform our members accordingly.

AER NEWSLETTER ON ENERGY OCTOBER 2006

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AER NEWS ON ENERGY

1. AER response to the EC Green Paper on Energy officially adopted

At the AER 'Regional Policies' committee plenary meeting on 2 October 2006 in Strasbourg (F) the members unanimously adopted the AER response to the EC Green Paper on Energy.

The position paper is submitted to the European Commission under the public consultation that they have launched, but the AER plans to schedule a meeting with Commissioner Piebalgs to officially present him the AER response to the Green Paper and discuss it in further detail. This meeting is foreseen to take place in the end of the year or early next year.

In the meantime, the AER 'Regional Policies' committee welcomes any feedback or input on the AER response to the Green Paper that they can bring to the meeting with Commissioner Piebalgs or integrate in a future position paper on the topic.

The AER response to the Green Paper is available on our web site under:

<http://www.a-e-r.org/main-issues/environment-sustainable-energy.html>

2. Outcome of the meeting of the working group on Energy 3 October 2006

On 3 October 2006 the meeting of the AER working group on Energy took place in the AER secretariat office in Strasbourg (F). This meeting was very constructive with regards to the AER's future activities in the field of Energy. Among the things that were discussed are the creation of an on-line database containing regional best practices in the field of Energy, the collaboration between the AER and Comunidad Valenciana for application of co-funding for a project under the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme and feedback on the meeting between the AER, the region of Niedersachsen and Mr. Corpakis from DG Research.

The minutes of the meeting are available upon request at the AER 'Regional Policies' secretariat.

The next meeting of the working group on Energy is foreseen to take place in January 2007 in Brussels where a representative of DG Research will be invited to provide the participants with more information on the next call for proposals in 2007 under the 7th Framework programme.

If you would like to join the working group on energy or receive information on the next meeting, please send an e-mail to the AER secretariat at e.delangle@a-e-r.org

3. The AER Partnership Pool is on-line!

As already officially announced in the last newsletter, the AER Partnership Pool is on-line at http://www.a-e-r.org/home-en/direct-from-the-regions/partnership-pools/partnership-pool-browser.html?no_cache=1. We very much encourage all of our members to make use of this database of regional projects that we offer you; it is after all a unique way to promote your Regions' activities and to search for partners for your projects.

The 2006 call for proposals under the Intelligent Energy Europe programme will be open until 31st October, so take this opportunity and browse through the partnership pool where three regions have already announced that they are looking for partners!

For any information on the partnership pool or an instruction guide, please contact the AER secretariat at j.schut@a-e-r.org

4. Input form on Regional best practices in the field of RES and energy efficiency: Feedback needed

At the meeting of the working group on Energy, the Input form on regional best practices in the field of RES and energy efficiency was presented. This input form serves as a research tool for the AER to investigate what regional projects are already running –or will start- in the field of Energy.

With regards to the AER database containing regional best practices in the field of Energy that will be created on the AER web site, we would like all AER members to keep us informed of what your Region is doing in the field of Energy. In the near future, we plan to disseminate the Input Form in order to generate as much information as possible about regional experience and projects in the field of Energy.

In order to best meet your expectations concerning this database, we welcome any feedback or input from your side. The Input Form is available upon request at the AER secretariat. Please send an e-mail to j.schut@a-e-r.org in case you would like to receive it and provide us with feedback.



UPDATE ON MANAGENERGY ACTIVITIES

1. Apply for the EU Sustainable Energy Europe Awards

The Sustainable Energy Europe Awards Competition is open to all Partners of the Managenergy Campaign on Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign 2005-2008. If you are not yet a partner you can join their partnerscheme via the link below.

The winning projects will be honoured during a prestigious public Award ceremony on 1 February 2007 in Brussels. This ceremony will take place during the EU Sustainable Energy Week, a new initiative of the European Commission scheduled from 29 January until 2 February 2007. Since the winning projects will be promoted to the press and showcased as examples of excellence, this is an opportunity that cannot be missed. More information about the Award Competition procedure and selection criteria can be found on: <http://www.sustenergy.org/tpl/page.cfm?pageName=procedure>

2. ManagEnergy Annual Conference and EU Sustainable Energy Week - 29 January to 4 February 2007

The Sixth ManagEnergy Annual Conference on Local Energy Action takes place in Brussels from 31 January to 1 February 2007 as part of EUSEW: The First EU Sustainable Energy Week - entitled "Take a week to change tomorrow!". The Annual Conference page on the ManagEnergy website will be regularly updated over the weeks leading up to the Conference - see:

<http://www.managenergy.net/conference/2007.html>

REMINDER : IEE CALL FOR PROPOSALS DEADLINE 31 OCTOBER 2006

1. IEE call for proposals, deadline 31 October 2006

You can apply for financial support for new projects under the current call for proposals, which is open until 31 October 2006.

For more information about the 2006 call for proposals, please visit the web site at :

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call_for_proposals/index_en.htm

Please allow us to remind you to make use of our aforementioned Partnership Pool to search for partners for your projects!

EU NEWS ON ENERGY – RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

1. IEE 2006 call for evaluators

The Evaluation for the 2006 Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) Call (Deadline 31 October) will take place in January/February 2007. The IEAA maintains a list of external experts to assist in the evaluation process of proposals submitted under the 2006 call.

Details of how to apply to be an evaluator can be found on the IEAA website under

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/evaluation/index_en.htm.

2. Commission proposes to extend energy crop aid scheme to all Member States

The European Commission today proposed to extend the energy crop premium introduced by the 2003 Common Agricultural Policy reform to the eight Member States which currently do not benefit from it. This would involve increasing the maximum area which can benefit from the aid to 2 million hectares from 1.5 million at present. "We need to do all we can to encourage the production of the raw materials for biofuels," said Mariann Fischer Boel, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development. "The energy crop scheme has had a good start.

For the complete press release and short background on biofuels, please go to :

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1243&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

3. Commissioner Kroes calls on the need for a renewed European energy policy

'The vision is of an open and competitive internal energy market. Where European energy companies can compete amongst each other, diversify their sources, and trade and exchange supplies to meet demand. Where the lights go on whenever the switch is flicked, wherever you are



in the Union. Where we export European expertise and ideas for energy efficiency and innovative technologies. And where Europe speaks with one voice to the rest of the world, pooling our weight at global level, ensuring secure, well-priced supplies for customers across the Union. This is the vision that the European Commission is determined to turn into reality. We set it out in the Green Paper launched earlier this year. In January 2007 we will present a Strategic Energy Review, looking at where Europe is in terms of energy and what we need to change if we are to achieve our policy goals. And next Spring European Heads of State and Government will adopt what needs to be an ambitious Action Plan to put real flesh on the bones'.

For the complete speech, please go to:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/06/541&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

INTERESTING CONFERENCES / SEMINARS

1. Policy conference – European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) 7-8 November 2006- Brussels

'How to integrate big amounts of wind energy into the European power infrastructure'? The results of this conference will provide answers to the European Councils' ambition to create a single European grid and the proposed Priority Interconnection Plan. Among the high level speakers that will be present is Commissioner Piebalgs, responsible for Energy. A press conference will take place on 7 November at 11:00. For more information on this event, please go to:

<http://www.ewea.org/integration>

2. Round table on energy efficiency 7-12-2006 – FEDARENE

In connection to the Energy Efficiency Action Plan of the European Commission, FEDARENE, with the support of Philips, is organising a round table between Institutions and Entreprises. This event will also mark the 2nd official signature of the Declaration "European Regions for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources". For more information on the declaration, please go to : <http://www.fedarene.org/>

The programme of the meeting is available upon request at the AER secretariat. Please contact Estelle Delangle at e.delangle@a-e-r.org

3. 15th European Biomass Conference & Exhibition, Berlin 2007

The conference is the largest international event on biomass and is expected to attract over 1300 attendees from Research & Development, industry, suppliers, applicant, government organisation and financing institutes. The expansion of renewable energies is a focus of Germany's environment and energy policies. The conference will be chaired by Dr. Kyriakos Maniatis, European Commission - DG Energy and Transport, sector Biofuels and Industry and Chairman of the International Energy Agency targeting the Bioenergy Implementing Agreement.

The Biomass Conference web-site <http://www.conference-biomass.com> provides you with continuously updated information.

4. International Symposium "Decentralised Energy Systems - Integrating Renewable Energy Technologies in Tomorrow's Energy Systems"

ForWind, the Center for Wind Energy Research of the Universities of Oldenburg and Hannover is hosting the international Symposium "Decentralised Energy Systems - Integrating Renewable Energy Technologies in Tomorrow's Energy Systems" in Oldenburg (Oldb), Germany, on 15th and 16th February, 2007. Additionally optional field trips are offered on 17th February. The conference language will be English. The programme will soon be available, this will be announced in the AER energy newsletter as well.

The symposium will provide an overview about technologies and their specified conceptual and technological integration within decentralised energy-supply systems of the future. The speakers will present current research projects and results as well as examples for best practice applications.

The preliminary social program offers a guided city tour on foot (in English) in the evening of Wednesday, 14th February, and the conference dinner on Thursday evening, 15th February 2007.

For further information please contact:



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5. World Sustainable Energy Days 2007: Call for papers

The World Sustainable Energy Days 2007 will be held on the 1st of March 2007 in Wels.

For more information on the conference and to register, please visit:

<http://www.esv.or.at/esv/index.php?id=228&L=1>

In addition, the 'call for papers' is launched and invites you to submit your written conference contribution before 18 October 2006. A paper is a written conference contribution (usually a short article) which is presented either as a speech or as a poster, which you submit to the "Call for Papers". All accepted and presented papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

The organisation invites you to submit papers on any of the following subjects:

- energy efficiency in buildings, transport & industry
- renewable energy sources
- pellets
- 'Energy future 2030'

For more information, please go to: <http://www.esv.or.at/esv/index.php?id=1657&L=1#2537>

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS ON ENERGY

1. The Severn Wye Energy Agency : From strategy to practical action

The Severn Wye Energy Agency is one of a network of agencies across Europe, set up to stimulate the development of sustainable energy through local and regional action for energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources. It is an independent (not-for-profit) company and registered charity.

For interesting presentations given at recent conferences and information on successful projects, please visit their web site at : <http://www.swea.co.uk/index.html>

2. Managenergy Good Practices on Local Energy Action

ManagEnergy Good Practice case studies are projects that demonstrate a positive contribution to energy efficiency and use of renewable energies in Europe and are suitable for replication by energy actors at regional and local level.

Under this link you will be able to submit your project as a Managenergy good practice case study or consult other case studies.

<http://www.managenergy.net/gp.html>

