

European Wind Energy Conference & Exhibition 2008

Press Clippings

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- GreenTV (UK), 250,000 visitors per month
- EurActiv (along with the article)

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- Blue Man Publishing
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Newsmarket (requests for Arthouros Zervos interview):

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NON TRADE PRESS

Guardian: Europe's energy chiefs aim for carbon-neutral electricity by 2050

The heads of 61 power groups in the EU tonight have committed to achieving carbon-neutral electricity within an integrated power market by 2050.

Their declaration, handed to Andris Piebalgs, EU energy commissioner, comes as Europe is under attack for lowering its ambitions to combat climate change, handing over leadership to the US and China and reneging on efforts to help the poorest developing countries adapt to a low-carbon economy.

The chief executives, including from the four main German groups, often seen as the principal culprits of faltering progress, made energy efficiency a cornerstone of climate change policy for the first time.

Lars Josefsson, president of Eurelectric, the industry association, and head of Swedish group Vattenfall, said the sector needed to invest €1.8tn (£1.7tn) between now and 2030 to replace ageing plants, develop "smart" grids, meet surging demand and deliver on environmental targets.

"I and my fellow CEOs have reiterated our belief that a competitive functioning market is the best means to deliver on this goal in a cost-effective manner while also ensuring the basic imperative of supply security – keeping the lights on and delivering reliable power to citizens and industry."

But the chief executives, including Ian Marchant from Scottish & Southern Energy, will anger green campaigners by insisting that nuclear power as well as new renewable energies is a core component of carbon-free supply. They also demanded clean fossil technologies, including carbon capture and storage (CCS) and highly efficient combined heat and power, as other core elements. They want simplified licensing procedures for new build, including nuclear.

In a clear nod to EU leaders, who begin their spring summit in Brussels today, they added that the scale of investment required a "stable, coherent and market-orientated investment framework".

EU governments are at loggerheads over a €5bn plan by the European Commission to spend unused EU budget lines on predominantly carbon-free energy, including CCS, offshore power grids and, until this week, the Nabucco gas pipeline from the Caspian Sea to western Europe.

It will be discussed at the summit over the next two days amid signs that it is unravelling and evidence that political indecision is driving down carbon prices. Eurelectric urged the leaders to work for a global approach to the challenge of mitigating greenhouse gases, increase

support for R&D and CCS and buttress market-based electricity prices. Consumers have already been warnedthat "green" energy will require price rises of up to 20%.

Welcoming the commitment, Piebalgs said: "If we want to win the battle against climate change and decarbonise EU electricity supply, we need to change completely the way we think energy production, consumption and development."

The EU's current policy objectives include cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 20% and gaining 20% of primary energy from renewables by 2020. Emissions cuts would rise to 30% if a global post-Kyoto deal is achieved at December's Copenhagen climate change summit.

Arthouros Zervos, president of the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA), said in Marseille: "If the EU is to meet its CO2 reduction and renewables targets, improve security of supply and create real competition in the European power market, we need to extend our power grids and change the way we operate them.

"At current fuel prices, electricity production costs from a new wind farm, coal plant and gas station are more or less the same. If a truly interconnected European grid existed and power markets were effective, the uncertainty of volatile carbon and fuel prices would ensure that wind – which avoids these unknown quantities – would become the most cost-effective of the three. We need the power markets to ensure that future investors are fully exposed to fuel and carbon price risk."

The EWEA said EU power markets are biased towards traditional fuels because they are dominated by vertically-integrated power groups such as Germany's E.On and RWE, France's EDF and Italy's Enel. It demands that EU leaders proceed with plans to break up these big groups by forcing them to "unbundle" or sell off their transmission activities to open up the market.

EurActiv: Wind energy sector buoyant despite downturn

Published: Tuesday 17 March 2009

With a smaller dependence on bank loans than other industries, the wind energy sector believes it will be among the first to emerge from the recession, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) said at the opening of its annual conference yesterday (16 March).

Background:

On 23 January 2008, the European Commission proposed a new directive that mandates a 20% share of renewable energies in the EU's energy mix by 2020 (see EurActiv LinksDossier).

A compromise deal was struck on 9 December 2008, setting out individual renewables targets for each member state (EurActiv 09/12/08). It also addressed grid access problems experienced by small producers of renewable energy in the past by providing for "either priority access or guaranteed access to the grid-system of electricity produced from renewable energy sources".

The renewable industry broadly welcomed the directive largely, saying the new framework provides long-term investment security in green energy.

The European wind sector is less affected by banks' reluctance to finance projects with loans as it can compensate with increased investment from institutional investors, infrastructure funds and power companies with strong balance sheets, EWEA said.

The announcement came as thousands of wind industry representatives from all over the world are gathering in Marseille for the European Wind Energy Conference 2009 this week.

Nevertheless, the sector urged governments and the European Investment Bank to act swiftly to accelerate economic recovery by establishing loan guarantees.

"Whilst many sectors are struggling with falling demand for their products, the European wind power sector is not. Although the sector is doing well in attracting new sources of finance, EU governments should learn a lesson from the US recovery plan, which provides billions of dollars in loan guarantees to renewables. We need all channels of finance, including bank lending and export credits, to be wide open to meet demand," EWEA CEO Christian Kjaer said.

Green MEP Claude Turmes, who was in charge of steering the Renewable Energy Directive through the European Parliament, also spoke in favour of allocating funding from the EU recovery plan to guarantee loans for renewable projects awarded by the European Investment Bank and others. This will ensure that these industries continue to grow and create jobs, Turmes said.

In fact, the wind industry expects the attractiveness of wind as an asset to help it emerge unscathed or even strengthened by the economic turmoil. EWEA said wind energy has become less risky after EU leaders agreed to binding targets for the share of renewables in the energy production of all 27 member states. Moreover, the industry is not exposed to fluctuating fuel and carbon prices.

Kjaer pointed out that about half the institutional investors say they are now more likely to invest in clean energy than a year ago. "Many investors have burned their fingers on high-risk assets, but require a higher return than the 2% they could get from government bonds. The institutional investors are showing the way and the retail investors will follow," he stated.

Wind: The EU's ticket to prosperity?

EWEA also launched its new report on wind energy's contribution to prosperity yesterday, comparing the cost of wind to other power sources. Presenting the findings at the conference, Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's president, stressed that Europe only holds a fraction of the world's proven fossil fuel resources and is going to lose the battle over depleting fuel sources.

In contrast, Zervos pointed out that European companies hold two thirds of the global market for wind power technology, worth €35 billion. "Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability," he concluded.

According to the report, a larger share for wind in producing energy is justified in most European countries, simply because it reduces the risk of fuel price volatility. It argues that current methods of calculating the cost of energy "blatantly favour the use of high-risk options for power generation," calling on governments to correct these market failures.

At the same time, EWEA announced that it had increased its 2020 target for installed wind energy capacity in the EU from 180 GW to 230 GW, 40 GW of which would be offshore. Howeber, Zervos warned that the new target will only be met if all EU member states implement the new Renewables Directive "swiftly and effectively".

The upgraded target should produce energy for the needs of 135 million average EU households by 2020, corresponding to 60% of EU households, EWEA stated. It said this would meet 14-18% of EU electricity demand.

In January, the EWEA's Kjaer told EurActiv that the Commission's objective of covering 12% of EU electricity consumption with wind energy by 2020 is not particularly ambitious and would not require a huge growth rate (EurActiv 21/01/09).

According to the Commission, wind energy will represent more than a third of all electricity production from renewable sources by 2020. Wind power is increasing rapidly, and more than 40% of all new electricity generation capacity added to the European grid in 2007 was wind, the EU executive stated.

Positions:

Speaking at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference (EWEC), **EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs** said: "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on. It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage."

German Socialist MEP Mechtild Rothe, a vice-president of the European Parliament, said wind energy had become a "driving force of our economies". "Especially in these times of uncertainty, it is very important that the European wind energy industry has created more

than 60,000 new jobs over the past five years. These are not mere statistics - this is the competitive strength of Europe," she said.

Green MEP Claude Turmes said more money from the EU recovery plan should be set aside for loan guarantees. "I welcome the proposal in the European Commission's draft of the five billion euro EU recovery plan to co-finance offshore wind and the first parts of a European supergrid, but this is not enough. The heads of state also have to address the difficulty being experienced by even the most dynamic economic sectors, like wind, in getting access to the necessary finance needed for their investments," he said.

Nobuo Tanaka, executive director of the **International Energy Agency** (IEA), said effective national policies and an international framework are needed to tap into wind's full potential to mitigate climate change. "We need to reinforce, expand and link up our transmission networks. We must also increase research and development efforts in wind-energy technology," he said.

According to **Jean-Louis Bal**, director of renewable energy at **ADEME**, the French environment and energy management agency, the EU's climate goals for 2020 - which include a 20% share for renewables - represent an "investment which will make the medium and long term benefits higher than the costs".

Roland Sundén, CEO of LM Glasfiber, argued that "the track record of wind is the most visible proof that wind creates great value". "As the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant, and that relevance creates an historic window of opportunity for everybody who is committed to combating climate change, to supporting technological leadership and to creating new competitive exports and jobs," he concluded.

Michael Liebreich of analysts **New Energy Finance** said: "European governments have injected hundreds of billions of euro to support financial institutions, but the fraction that reaches the real economy in the form of project finance is being limited by banks' reluctance to lend. This short-term difficulty does not accurately reflect the medium-term attractiveness of the sector. In a recent survey, we found that 75% of institutional investors say they are likely to invest more in the sector by 2012."

Reuters: 'Wind cuts exposure to fuel, carbon swings' By Muriel Boselli

MARSEILLE — Decision makers comparing wind power prices with apparently cheaper energy sources should take full account of the lower exposure to fuel and carbon price volatility that wind offers, a wind industry group said.

The European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) said the benefit was so substantial it could justify a larger share of wind energy in most European countries, even if wind was more expensive per kilowatt hour than other forms of power generation such as coal or gas.

"Adjusting for fuel price risk when making cost comparisons between various energy technologies is unfortunately very uncommon and the approach is not yet applied at International Energy Agency (IEA), European Commission or government level," the EWEA said in a report, released on Monday at a wind conference.

"They are standard methods that you can borrow from finance theory that allow you to include those risks in comparing costs," Christian Kjaer, chief executive of EWEA, told Reuters.

The wind sector is suffering from the global economic crisis, which has dried up project finance, while a sharp fall in oil prices since July has weakened its competitiveness compared with gas. But it is aided by subsidies such as a guaranteed price premium in Germany, Spain and France.

With oil prices at around \$50 a barrel it was probably cheaper to produce electricity from coal-fired power plants than wind energy, Kjaer said, but once fuel and carbon price risks were added wind power would become a more attractive option.

"Over a 20-year period you can know how much the energy will cost within a one to 3% certainty," Kjaer said, adding that wind speeds averaged out over the years.

Wind power generates just over 4% of consumed electricity in the European Union, the EWEA said.

"Power companies which are building new electricity generating capacity are taking on that risk but if fuel prices go up, that extra cost is transferred to consumers," he said.

It was vital for competition in electricity markets to be effective, so that the risk would be taken into account by those making the investment decisions.

"If the markets don't work I can't prove that wind is cheaper and that's why, even though it makes economic sense, it doesn't have a market impact yet and that's why you still need frameworks (subsidies)," Kjaer said.

Khaalej Times: Wind cuts exposure to fuel, carbon swings (Reuters) 16 March 2009

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Reuters: Crisis hampers EU wind power in short-term: lobby

Mon Mar 16, 2009 1:05pm EDT

By Muriel Boselli

MARSEILLE (Reuters) - The economic downturn is delaying wind power projects in the European Union but the negative impact will not last because of strong sector fundamentals, a European wind power lobby said on Monday.

"There is a slowdown in the sector, we are seeing some signs, but much less than in other sectors," Arthouros Zervos, president of the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA), told Reuters on the sidelines of a wind conference.

"The impact will be short term because the fundamentals are still there for wind development," he said.

There was some difficulty in financing projects, which meant some were delayed but there had been no canceled projects so far, Zervos added.

Michael Liebreich, analyst with consultancy firm New Energy Finance, said he believed between 10 and 15 percent of all new projects in Europe in 2009 would be delayed or canceled.

The wind energy sector was attracting new sources of capital that compensated for banks' reluctance to provide debt finance for projects, the EWEA said.

"A growing number of power companies with strong balance sheets are investing in wind energy and there is increasing interest from institutional investors," it added.

While it expected the sector to be among the first to emerge from the economic turmoil, it urged governments and the European Investment Bank to establish loan guarantees to ease the banking liquidity squeeze.

LONGER TERM

In the longer term, Zervos was optimistic because of the European Union's decision last year to source a fifth of its energy by 2020 from renewable sources like the sun and wind, to cut greenhouse gas emissions and reduce dependence on unreliable imports of oil and gas.

The EU's plan had gained urgency after a gas dispute between Russia and Ukraine earlier this year, which forced hundreds of European businesses to shut down and left thousands of homes without heating, the EU's energy commissioner Andris Piebalgs told conference delegates.

"We now estimate installed capacity in the European Union to reach 230,000 megawatts (MW), up from a 2003 forecast of 180,000 MW," Zervos said, adding this included 40,000 MW in offshore capacity.

Wind power was expected to generate 600 terawatt hours per year by 2020 and make up between 16 and 18 percent of the EU's electricity demand.

The Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) said last week the economic downturn would dent wind power growth in the United States in 2009, as firms scrambled to finance their projects.

It expected wind power growth to be stable in Europe and continue to increase sharply in China

GWEC was more optimistic than some analysts, forecasting added installed power would grow in 2009 compared with 2008, contrasting with an HSBC report which last week forecast new additions would drop by a fifth.

The council said a \$787 billion U.S. stimulus package would however help revive the sector when it kicked in, through tax breaks, financial incentives, loan guarantees and grants.

The council said it expected global wind power capacity to nearly triple in the next five years, although the year-on-year growth would slow down to an average of 22 percent, down from 28 percent in the last 10 years.

(Editing by Sue Thomas)

EC: Opening speech at the European Wind Energy Conf.

Marseille, 16 March 2009

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure for me to be here at the opening session to welcome you to the 2009 edition of the European Wind Energy Conference in Marseille. I would like to thank EWEA for organising this major event, and for inviting me again this year. I really appreciate this yearly opportunity to meet some many involved in the wind industry, and I am sure that this week's conference will be as successful as the one in Brussels a year ago.

Before reviewing the past year, and then to offer some thoughts about the challenges that lie ahead, I want to set the scene. The question I would like to answer first is: Why are we doing what we are doing on the climate and energy front?

Well, I start with the science. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has been very clear: "Warming of the climate system is unequivocal..."

Humans are the "likely" cause, and the range of forecasts suggests that we had better act now to avoid dangerous effects becoming too pronounced. Experts are warning policy-makers that there is a need to act. We know there's a problem, and we have a responsibility to act.

In March 2007, along with setting the EU's 20% renewable energy target, the Heads of State and Government also re-stated the EU's commitment to limit the increase of global average temperature to 20C above pre-industrial levels. This presupposes that emissions of global greenhouses gases are stabilised within the next two decades, and that industrialised countries reduce their emissions by 60% to 80% by 2050. It is in this context that the "20-20-20 targets" for 2020 were agreed.

There was also agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% compared to 1990 in the case of an international agreement being reached. The direction provided by the European Council is very clear.

In his report for the UK Treasury, Nicholas STERN told us very clearly that the costs of inaction were substantially greater than the costs of action. The costs of inaction could rise as high as between 5% and 20% of lost GDP each and every year. These are extraordinarily high numbers, and are much greater than the GDP lost by economic slow downs. By comparison, the cost of the climate-energy package in 2020 is 0,45% GDP and, between now and then, GDP is forecast to increase by 38% compared to today's level. Even if GDP were not to grow by quite as much, as now seems possible, we're talking of a very small difference due to doing the right thing. This is a small price to pay to avoid the potentially catastrophic effects of irreversible climate change.

I think there's another lesson here that can be confirmed by the recent experience in financial markets: acting too late costs more than acting early. The key message of Lord Stern's Report is that there is still time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, if we take strong action now.

My fellow Commissioners and I will be working very hard, therefore, to make the climate change Summit in Copenhagen next December a success. Everyone knows that climate change is a global problem that requires a global response. I am also confident that President OBAMA will contribute enormously to consolidate a new global impetus.

I think we can all agree that the year that has gone by has been an exciting one, not least for those of us who work with energy. At times a little bit "too exciting" maybe... – to be honest this year didn't start quite as I would have hoped: thousands of EU citizens began the year without gas to keep their homes warm, their schools open or their companies running.

But the gas crisis has at least been helpful as a reminder that we cannot take energy security for granted – just in case anybody were still in doubt about that.

Wind energy can make a significant contribution to improving security of energy supplies in Europe, and the statistics increasingly demonstrate it: in 2008 more wind power capacity was installed than any other generation technology. Wind energy capacity grew by almost 15% in the EU, and even more – by almost the double, 28.8% – globally. In view of such facts, those who still think that wind energy will never be more than a "marginal" energy source are, themselves, rapidly being marginalised. Wind energy is becoming mainstream – and will be even more so in the years to come.

You may have noted that on Thursday 5 March, records of wind energy production were broken in Spain, with wind producing its highest ever output, amounting to some 11,200 MW of power, equivalent to 29,5% of Spanish demand at that time. For a weekday midmorning, that's certainly an impressive share. Obviously, this has required investment in grid capabilities, but the know-how exists. By the end of this year, RED Electrica, the Spanish grid operator, expects Spain to be producing almost a quarter of its electricity from renewable sources.

Becoming mainstream does not mean that there isn't a need for an appropriate, fair and supportive regulatory framework. Also in that respect, 2008 was a remarkable year. At last year's conference, I outlined the proposal for a new Directive to promote renewable energy which the Commission had then recently made. Today, a year later, the Directive has already been politically agreed and will shortly be formally adopted and enter into force. This is a major achievement which will affect the wind industry for years to come, and of which all those who have contributed can be proud. The French Presidency's role in delivering this success was critical and well recognised. So is the very constructive role played by the European Parliament. But in addition, key stakeholders, and in particular the European Wind Energy Association, also engaged very constructively and helped to secure an ambitious outcome. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Association and the wind industry for this support.

But turning towards the future, what will the new Directive actually do for wind energy?

Well, first and foremost it will provide certainty about the direction and the speed with which we will move forward on renewable energy. All Member States now have legally binding targets for the share of the energy consumption that must come from renewable sources by 2020. The targets vary from Member State to Member State but one thing is sure: wind will play an important role in meeting them. Even the EU Member States with limited wind resources will be able to use wind energy to meet their targets through the so-called flexibility mechanisms provided for in the Directive. All that is needed is a government level agreement between the country where the installations are actually installed, and the country which wishes to benefit from the wind energy produced as a cost-effective means of meeting its target.

The certainty will come not just from the targets, but also from the national renewable energy action plans that Member States will prepare. These will be key instruments for investors as they will provide a transparent, shared vision for how to get to the 2020 goals, including indications of which technologies will deliver how much. My services are currently preparing a template for the national plans to be adopted in June this year by the Commission. After that the Member States must draft their plans and submit them by June 2010, and I invite all of you to get involved in the development of these plans to make sure, from the outset, that they are concrete and ambitious enough to serve as a clear roadmap on our way to 2020.

Apart from the elements designed to enhance certainty for developers and investors, the Directive contains stronger and clearer obligations on Member States to reduce the administrative burdens and other obstacles that have too often held back good renewable energy projects. These obligations will give the Commission a much better tool for making sure that Member States seriously address these problems.

So binding targets and better tools to deliver them are essentially what the new Directive gives us when it comes to wind energy. But I wish also to highlight another element: the new Directive obliges Member States to take the appropriate steps needed to develop transmission and distribution grid infrastructure "... in order to allow the secure operation of the electricity system as it accommodates the further development of electricity production from renewable energy sources". In other words, the Member States must follow Spain's example, and prepare their grids for large-scale integration of electricity from renewable sources.

We've always known that grid issues were important for wind energy, but it will become even more so in the future. That is also why the Commission, in its Second Strategic Energy Review from November 2008, identified a number of key infrastructure projects as priorities for the years to come. Among these are a Mediterranean Energy Ring and an offshore grid in the North Western parts of Europe.

To talk about projects is in reality a significant understatement – establishing this infrastructure will require formidable financial, technical, political and human resources – so

much so that, at this early stage, it would probably be more correct to talk about "visions" than "projects".

But visions must guide the shaping of reality, and the Commission is ready to play its part in doing that. We are committed to facilitating the process, and as part of that plan to present Communications on each of these two initiatives by the end of 2010. But please don't just sit back and wait for these next reports – we need the involvement of all stakeholders in finding out how to go from vision to reality, and the key part of the work is bringing the right people and resources together.

The good news is that we are already working on that. Let me give a few examples:

The European Coordinator for Offshore Wind Connections in North Europe appointed by the Commission, Mr Adamowitsch, has in the last $1\frac{1}{2}$ years established an open, multistakeholder forum which already has considerable success in bringing the various players together and allow for greater cross-border cooperation. I would like to acknowledge publicly the fine work he is doing. I understand that tomorrow afternoon, a special workshop organised by Mr Adamowitsch will take place here at EWEC, where the outline of what could become the first modules of a North Sea offshore grid will be discussed.

Secondly, in terms of industrial preparedness, the European Industrial Wind Initiative, proposed by the Commission as part of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan, is now taking shape. Facing some of the common challenges jointly will be critical for maintaining Europe's leadership in wind technology, and for developing more robust and cost-effective solutions for the offshore market. I am glad to see the leadership role taken by the industry in this respect.

Thirdly, as part of the EU's 7th Framework Programme on research, development and demonstration, we are right now waiting for proposals for a big collaborative project or two aimed at demonstrating technologies to optimize the electricity grids and prepare them for large-scale integration of renewable electricity, including from off-shore wind farms. The EU part of the budget alone is expected to be some EUR 35 million, so we hope and trust this will attract some good and serious proposals for projects that can really take us forward.

The big question, of course, that many ask these days, is: how will the global economic situation develop and how will the financial crisis affect the wind energy sector? I look forward to hearing your views and experience on this today, but as a starting point I am personally rather optimistic on your behalf.

Of course this doesn't mean that the shortage of credit, a low oil price and a nervous market doesn't affect the wind sector – I know it does and that it has already led to job cuts, even with the big players in the industry. And, of course, it starts by affecting the more risky segments of the market, such as offshore wind.

Why am I confident on your behalf? Because if there is a sector which has the fundamentals on its side, I would think it is the wind sector. While there is uncertainty about many things, two things appear fairly certain:

Electricity demand is likely to continue to increase in the coming decades;

As I have already indicated, the need to address climate change will impose ever tougher constraints on how that electricity is produced. Wind energy addresses both of these challenges, and is even among the most cost-effective options for doing so.

One of the keys to success in developing renewable energies as we approach the 2020 targets and the number of installations multiply will be social acceptance, and sharing the benefits with the local communities in which the installations are sited. The wind energy industry has generally been good in bringing public opinion with it, but in the future, as installations multiply in number and in size, this will become even more important. The sector must stay in tune with the communities in which wind farms are placed, and approach them with respect, as partners.

Equally, we must not rely on the EU's present leadership on wind technologies and stop innovating. Forgetting to maintain a competitive edge by investing in R&D and instead just cashing in from growth in the easiest markets onshore, whether in the Europe, the US or elsewhere, is tempting but ultimately a recipe for long-term failure. The level of political ambition demonstrated by the adoption of the energy-climate package must be matched with a similar industrial commitment to develop an even more robust, innovative and mass scale global industry – in Europe. Further Research and Development needs to be pursued in a number of fields. As an example, we should aim to double the size of the largest wind turbines available within the next decade, thus envisaging individual turbines of 10 MW or more. The Commission has already supported a project[1] developing concepts for such machines, and future calls under the Framework Programme will aim to have concrete prototypes and demonstrators by 2015. Last year a project was started to demonstrate 7 MW turbines at an onshore location in Belgium, but as we go even further, it is obvious that off-shore will take over as the lead application given the logistical and landscape issues related to placing very large turbines on land.

Therefore, the industry's commitment to invest in R&D must include offshore wind, however difficult it may sometimes appear. In this field Europe has clear first-mover advantages and a competitive edge we should work to maintain. Not least at a time where other maritime based industries are declining and resources such as harbours, shipyards and people with experience are available to be redeployed.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure you know the saying by Niels BOHR that "Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future." I am nevertheless very confident that the European wind energy sector has a bright future ahead if it seizes the opportunities that lie in front of it. As Alan KAY said, "The best way to predict the future is to invent it" – so please, keep up the good work and do just that – invent the future!

Reuters: Wind cuts exposure to fuel, carbon swings: lobby

Mon Mar 16, 2009 4:03am EDT Email | Print | Share | Reprints | Single Page[-] Text [+] By Muriel Boselli

MARSEILLE (Reuters) - Decision makers comparing wind power prices with apparently cheaper energy sources should take full account of the lower exposure to fuel and carbon price volatility that wind offers, a wind industry group said.

The European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) said the benefit was so substantial it could justify a larger share of wind energy in most European countries, even if wind was more expensive per kilowatt hour than other forms of power generation such as coal or gas.

"Adjusting for fuel price risk when making cost comparisons between various energy technologies is unfortunately very uncommon and the approach is not yet applied at International Energy Agency (IEA), European Commission or government level," the EWEA said in a report, released on Monday at a wind conference.

"They are standard methods that you can borrow from finance theory that allow you to include those risks in comparing costs," Christian Kjaer, chief executive of EWEA, told Reuters.

The wind sector is suffering from the global economic crisis, which has dried up project finance, while a sharp fall in oil prices since July has weakened its competitiveness compared with gas. But it is aided by subsidies such as a guaranteed price premium in Germany, Spain and France.

With oil prices at around \$50 a barrel it was probably cheaper to produce electricity from coal-fired power plants than wind energy, Kjaer said, but once fuel and carbon price risks were added wind power would become a more attractive option.

"Over a 20-year period you can know how much the energy will cost within a one to three percent certainty," Kjaer said, adding that wind speeds averaged out over the years.

Wind power generates just over four percent of consumed electricity in the European Union, the EWEA said.

"Power companies which are building new electricity generating capacity are taking on that risk but if fuel prices go up, that extra cost is transferred to consumers," he said.

It was vital for competition in electricity markets to be effective, so that the risk would be taken into account by those making the investment decisions.

"If the markets don't work I can't prove that wind is cheaper and that's why, even though it makes economic sense, it doesn't have a market impact yet and that's why you still need frameworks (subsidies)," Kjaer said.

(Editing by Anthony Barker)

Business Times: 'Wind cuts exposure to fuel, carbon swings'

By Muriel Boselli, Reuters Published:Mar 16, 2009

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Polish Business Review: Wind giving a competitive advantage

By NEWS SYSTEM

Published: March 18th, 2009 Related tags: energy, wind

"Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

According to the European Commission, 3.5% of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. We sit on less than 2% of the world's gas; less than 2% of its uranium and we have under 1% of the world's oil. "The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's President, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the EUR35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

Wind energy's contribution to prosperity is analysed in detail in a new EWEA report launched today, which Zervos presented to delegates. 'The Economics of Wind Energy' provides a detailed insight into wind energy economics and compares the costs of wind to those of other power-generating technologies.

Zervos also announced that EWEA has increased its 2020 target for installed wind energy capacity in the EU from 180 GW to 230 GW, including 40 GW offshore. He explained that "the agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook. We have therefore increased our targets. However, these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the directive swiftly and effectively." Previously, EWEA's target was set at 180 GW of installed capacity in the EU by 2020,

including 35 GW offshore. The new 230 GW target would produce approximately 600 TWh per year in the EU by 2020, power equivalent to the needs of 135 million average EU households (60% of EU households) and meeting between 14 and 18% of EU electricity demand (depending on total demand in 2020).

Mechtild Rothe, Vice President of the European Parliament said that wind energy can make a real difference to employment and economies. "Wind energy is an excellent example of how to intelligently invest in a future-orientated sustainable economy getting thousands of people into jobs," she said. "Especially in these times of uncertainty it is very important that the European wind energy industry has created more than 60,000 new jobs over the past five years. These are not mere statistics - this is the competitive strength of Europe! Wind energy has definitely become a driving force of our economies. We have learned from the current crisis that we should not wait until the problems are there before we act - we need to invest in wind energy now."

Nobuo Tanaka, Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA), focused on the environmental benefits of wind energy in his presentation, saying that it "has an important role to play in climate change mitigation" but to tap into wind's full potential "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework. We need to reinforce, expand and link up our transmission networks. We must also increase research and development efforts in wind energy technology." Tanaka went on to stress the importance of focusing economic recovery plans on green investments for a short-term stimulus and long-term benefits.

Roland Sunden, CEO of LM Glasfiber and Chair of EWEC 2009 said today that "in 2008, more wind was installed in the EU than any other power generating technology. The track record of wind is the most visible proof that it creates great value. And as the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant, and that relevance creates a historic window of opportunity for everybody who is committed to combating climate change, to supporting technological leadership and to creating new competitive exports and jobs." Andre Antolini, President of the French Renewable Energy Association (SER) cited France as a specific example of the difference wind can make to the economy. He said that "in France there are now over 130 companies that produce components for - or offer services to - the wind energy sector. Wind energy helps industry and the economy." Marcin Korolec, Secretary of State for the Ministry of the Economy in Poland, agreed. "The development of wind energy stimulates the whole economy, particularly at times of crisis", he said. Jean-Louis Bal, Renewable Energy Director at ADEME, reinforced the important effects meeting the 2020 targets will have on Europe's future, saying that "the 20-20-20 by 2020 objectives represent an important investment, but also an investment whose medium and long term benefits are far higher than the costs."

To give a visual display of the benefits of wind energy Roland Sunden switched on a 'wind energy counter', which will run until the close of EWEC. The counter will show how much electricity wind has provided in Europe, how many investments have been made and jobs created in the sector, and the number of turbines built during the four days.

E-Gov monitor: Wind - green energy for Europe

Source: European Commission

Published Tuesday, 17 March, 2009 - 16:40

It is a pleasure for me to be here at the opening session to welcome you to the 2009 edition of the European Wind Energy Conference in Marseille. I would like to thank EWEA for organising this major event, and for inviting me again this year. I really appreciate this yearly opportunity to meet some many involved in the wind industry, and I am sure that this week's conference will be as successful as the one in Brussels a year ago.

Before reviewing the past year, and then to offer some thoughts about the challenges that lie ahead, I want to set the scene. The question I would like to answer first is: Why are we doing what we are doing on the climate and energy front?

Well, I start with the science. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has been very clear: "Warming of the climate system is unequivocal..."

Humans are the "likely" cause, and the range of forecasts suggests that we had better act now to avoid dangerous effects becoming too pronounced. Experts are warning policy-makers that there is a need to act. We know there's a problem, and we have a responsibility to act.

In March 2007, along with setting the EU's 20% renewable energy target, the Heads of State and Government also re-stated the EU's commitment to limit the increase of global average temperature to 20C above pre-industrial levels. This presupposes that emissions of global greenhouses gases are stabilised within the next two decades, and that industrialised countries reduce their emissions by 60% to 80% by 2050. It is in this context that the "20-20-20 targets" for 2020 were agreed.

There was also agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% compared to 1990 in the case of an international agreement being reached. The direction provided by the European Council is very clear.

In his report for the UK Treasury, Nicholas STERN told us very clearly that the costs of inaction were substantially greater than the costs of action. The costs of inaction could rise as high as between 5% and 20% of lost GDP each and every year. These are extraordinarily high numbers, and are much greater than the GDP lost by economic slow downs. By comparison, the cost of the climate-energy package in 2020 is 0,45% GDP and, between now and then, GDP is forecast to increase by 38% compared to today's level. Even if GDP were not to grow by quite as much, as now seems possible, we're talking of a very small difference due to doing the right thing. This is a small price to pay to avoid the potentially catastrophic effects of irreversible climate change.

I think there's another lesson here that can be confirmed by the recent experience in financial markets: acting too late costs more than acting early. The key message of Lord Stern's Report is that there is still time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, if we take strong action now.

My fellow Commissioners and I will be working very hard, therefore, to make the climate change Summit in Copenhagen next December a success. Everyone knows that climate change is a global problem that requires a global response. I am also confident that President OBAMA will contribute enormously to consolidate a new global impetus.

I think we can all agree that the year that has gone by has been an exciting one, not least for those of us who work with energy. At times a little bit "too exciting" maybe... – to be honest this year didn't start quite as I would have hoped: thousands of EU citizens began the year without gas to keep their homes warm, their schools open or their companies running.

But the gas crisis has at least been helpful as a reminder that we cannot take energy security for granted – just in case anybody were still in doubt about that.

Wind energy can make a significant contribution to improving security of energy supplies in Europe, and the statistics increasingly demonstrate it: in 2008 more wind power capacity was installed than any other generation technology. Wind energy capacity grew by almost 15% in the EU, and even more – by almost the double, 28.8% – globally. In view of such facts, those who still think that wind energy will never be more than a "marginal" energy source are, themselves, rapidly being marginalised. Wind energy is becoming mainstream – and will be even more so in the years to come.

You may have noted that on Thursday 5 March, records of wind energy production were broken in Spain, with wind producing its highest ever output, amounting to some 11,200 MW of power, equivalent to 29,5% of Spanish demand at that time. For a weekday midmorning, that's certainly an impressive share. Obviously, this has required investment in grid capabilities, but the know-how exists. By the end of this year, RED Electrica, the Spanish grid operator, expects Spain to be producing almost a quarter of its electricity from renewable sources.

Becoming mainstream does not mean that there isn't a need for an appropriate, fair and supportive regulatory framework. Also in that respect, 2008 was a remarkable year. At last year's conference, I outlined the proposal for a new Directive to promote renewable energy which the Commission had then recently made. Today, a year later, the Directive has already been politically agreed and will shortly be formally adopted and enter into force. This is a major achievement which will affect the wind industry for years to come, and of which all those who have contributed can be proud. The French Presidency's role in delivering this success was critical and well recognised. So is the very constructive role played by the European Parliament. But in addition, key stakeholders, and in particular the European Wind Energy Association, also engaged very constructively and helped to secure an ambitious

outcome. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Association and the wind industry for this support.

But turning towards the future, what will the new Directive actually do for wind energy?

Well, first and foremost it will provide certainty about the direction and the speed with which we will move forward on renewable energy. All Member States now have legally binding targets for the share of the energy consumption that must come from renewable sources by 2020. The targets vary from Member State to Member State but one thing is sure: wind will play an important role in meeting them. Even the EU Member States with limited wind resources will be able to use wind energy to meet their targets through the so-called flexibility mechanisms provided for in the Directive. All that is needed is a government level agreement between the country where the installations are actually installed, and the country which wishes to benefit from the wind energy produced as a cost-effective means of meeting its target.

The certainty will come not just from the targets, but also from the national renewable energy action plans that Member States will prepare. These will be key instruments for investors as they will provide a transparent, shared vision for how to get to the 2020 goals, including indications of which technologies will deliver how much. My services are currently preparing a template for the national plans to be adopted in June this year by the Commission. After that the Member States must draft their plans and submit them by June 2010, and I invite all of you to get involved in the development of these plans to make sure, from the outset, that they are concrete and ambitious enough to serve as a clear roadmap on our way to 2020.

Apart from the elements designed to enhance certainty for developers and investors, the Directive contains stronger and clearer obligations on Member States to reduce the administrative burdens and other obstacles that have too often held back good renewable energy projects. These obligations will give the Commission a much better tool for making sure that Member States seriously address these problems.

So binding targets and better tools to deliver them are essentially what the new Directive gives us when it comes to wind energy. But I wish also to highlight another element: the new Directive obliges Member States to take the appropriate steps needed to develop transmission and distribution grid infrastructure "... in order to allow the secure operation of the electricity system as it accommodates the further development of electricity production from renewable energy sources". In other words, the Member States must follow Spain's example, and prepare their grids for large-scale integration of electricity from renewable sources.

We've always known that grid issues were important for wind energy, but it will become even more so in the future. That is also why the Commission, in its Second Strategic Energy Review from November 2008, identified a number of key infrastructure projects as priorities

for the years to come. Among these are a Mediterranean Energy Ring and an offshore grid in the North Western parts of Europe.

To talk about projects is in reality a significant understatement – establishing this infrastructure will require formidable financial, technical, political and human resources – so much so that, at this early stage, it would probably be more correct to talk about "visions" than "projects".

But visions must guide the shaping of reality, and the Commission is ready to play its part in doing that. We are committed to facilitating the process, and as part of that plan to present Communications on each of these two initiatives by the end of 2010. But please don't just sit back and wait for these next reports – we need the involvement of all stakeholders in finding out how to go from vision to reality, and the key part of the work is bringing the right people and resources together.

The good news is that we are already working on that. Let me give a few examples:

- * The European Coordinator for Offshore Wind Connections in North Europe appointed by the Commission, Mr Adamowitsch, has in the last $1\frac{1}{2}$ years established an open, multistakeholder forum which already has considerable success in bringing the various players together and allow for greater cross-border cooperation. I would like to acknowledge publicly the fine work he is doing. I understand that tomorrow afternoon, a special workshop organised by Mr Adamowitsch will take place here at EWEC, where the outline of what could become the first modules of a North Sea offshore grid will be discussed.
- * Secondly, in terms of industrial preparedness, the European Industrial Wind Initiative, proposed by the Commission as part of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan, is now taking shape. Facing some of the common challenges jointly will be critical for maintaining Europe's leadership in wind technology, and for developing more robust and cost-effective solutions for the offshore market. I am glad to see the leadership role taken by the industry in this respect.
- * Thirdly, as part of the EU's 7th Framework Programme on research, development and demonstration, we are right now waiting for proposals for a big collaborative project or two aimed at demonstrating technologies to optimize the electricity grids and prepare them for large-scale integration of renewable electricity, including from off-shore wind farms. The EU part of the budget alone is expected to be some EUR 35 million, so we hope and trust this will attract some good and serious proposals for projects that can really take us forward.

The big question, of course, that many ask these days, is: how will the global economic situation develop and how will the financial crisis affect the wind energy sector? I look forward to hearing your views and experience on this today, but as a starting point I am personally rather optimistic on your behalf.

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with the big players in the industry. And, of course, it starts by affecting the more risky segments of the market, such as offshore wind.

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- * Electricity demand is likely to continue to increase in the coming decades;
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Thank you for your attention!

United Press International: Siemens releases new wind turbines

Published: March 17, 2009 at 10:14 AM

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MARSEILLE, France, March 17 (UPI) -- Germany-based Siemens Energy released its latest wind turbine technology at the European Wind Energy Conference in Marseille, France.

Siemens Energy said its new SWT-2.3-101 wind turbine is geared to sites with low to medium wind speeds.

The turbines have rotor diameters of 101 meters and are designed to produce more power at lower wind speeds.

"The new SWT-2.3-101 wind turbine completes our 2.3-megawatt class product family. We are confident that the new machine will set the industry standard for quality and reliability in low to medium wind markets," said Andreas Nauen, chief executive of the Siemens Wind Power business unit.

The new turbines will allow a whole new group of sites to be open to wind power, Nauen said

Denmark.dk: Wind takes the lead in the EU power sector

More wind power was installed in the EU in 2008 than any other electricity generating technology

New figures from the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) show that 36% of all new electricity generating capacity built in the EU in 2008 was wind energy, exceeding all other technologies including gas, coal and nuclear power, EWEA writes in a press release.

23,851 MW of new power capacity was constructed in the EU last year. Out of this total, 8,484 MW (36%) was wind power, 6,932 MW (29%) was gas, 4,200 MW (18%) was solar, 2,495 MW (10%) was oil, 762 (3%) MW was coal, 473 (2%) MW was hydro and 60 MW (0.3%) was nuclear power.

"For the first time, wind energy is the leading technology in Europe and the renewable share of new power installations was 57% in 2008. A total of 64,935 MW of installed wind energy capacity was operating in the EU by end of 2008, 15% higher than in 2007", states EWEA.

Christian Kjaer, EWEA chief executive comments: "The figures show that wind energy is the undisputed number one choice in Europe's efforts to move towards clean, indigenous renewable power."

On average 20 wind turbines were installed for every working day of 2008. In a normal year, the wind power capacity installed by the end of 2008 will produce 142 TWh of electricity, corresponding to 4.2% of electricity demand in the EU, and save 108 million tonnes of CO2 emissions annually, the equivalent of taking more than 50 million cars off the roads in Europe.

Wind energy in Denmark currently provides approx. 20 per cent of total electricity consumption.

Financial.com: Wind Energy Gives Europe a Competitive Advantage, Says EU Energy Commissioner

MARSEILLE, France, March 17 /PRNewswire/ — "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

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Mechtild Rothe, Vice President of the European Parliament said that wind energy can make a real difference to employment and economies. "Wind energy is an excellent example of how to intelligently invest in a future-orientated sustainable economy getting thousands of people into jobs," she said. "Especially in these times of uncertainty it is very important that the European wind energy industry has created more than 60,000 new jobs over the past five years. These are not mere statistics - this is the competitive strength of Europe! Wind energy has definitely become a driving force of our economies. We have learned from the current crisis that we should not wait until the problems are there before we act - we need to invest in wind energy now."

Nobuo Tanaka, Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA), focused on the environmental benefits of wind energy in his presentation, saying that it "has an important role to play in climate change mitigation" but to tap into wind's full potential "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework. We need to reinforce, expand and link up our transmission networks. We must also increase research and development efforts in wind energy technology." Tanaka went on to stress the importance of focusing economic recovery plans on green investments for a short-term stimulus

and long-term benefits.

Roland Sunden, CEO of LM Glasfiber and Chair of EWEC 2009 said today that "in 2008, more wind was installed in the EU than any other power generating technology. The track record of wind is the most visible proof that it creates great value. And as the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant, and that relevance creates a historic window of opportunity for everybody who is committed to combating climate change, to supporting technological leadership and to creating new competitive exports and jobs."

Andre Antolini, President of the French Renewable Energy Association (SER) cited France as a specific example of the difference wind can make to the economy. He said that "in France there are now over 130 companies that produce components for - or offer services to - the wind energy sector. Wind energy helps industry and the economy." Marcin Korolec, Secretary of State for the Ministry of the Economy in Poland, agreed. "The development of wind energy stimulates the whole economy, particularly at times of crisis", he said.

Jean-Louis Bal, Renewable Energy Director at ADEME, reinforced the important effects meeting the 2020 targets will have on Europe's future, saying that "the 20-20-20 by 2020 objectives represent an important investment, but also an investment whose medium and long term benefits are far higher than the costs."

To give a visual display of the benefits of wind energy Roland Sunden switched on a 'wind energy counter', which will run until the close of EWEC. The counter will show how much electricity wind has provided in Europe, how many investments have been made and jobs created in the sector, and the number of turbines built during the four days.

EWEC is taking place in Marseille and will run until Thursday 19 March. Other sessions will cover political, grid, technical and scientific issues related to wind energy. Broadcast-standard videos highlighting the main activities at EWEC will be made available on www.thenewsmarket.com as from Tuesday, 17 March.

To download 'The Economics of Wind Energy', click here: http://www.ewea.org/index.php?id=11.

La Provence: Eco Agenda: vos rendez-vous de la semaine

Publié le lundi 16 mars 2009 à 06H54

Retrouvez chaque semaine vos rendez-vous emploi, immobilier, tourisme et entreprise dans l'agenda économique de LaProvence.com

Lundi 16 mars:

Marseille

Energie: la Conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) 2009, organisée par l'Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (European Wind Energy Association - EWEA), et dédiée à la Directive historique sur les énergies renouvelables adoptée en décembre 2008 par l'Union Européenne, s'ouvre ce lundi. Du 16 au 19 mars, les acteurs du secteur de l'éolien ainsi que plusieurs décideurs politiques se retrouveront au palais des congrès du Parc Chanot à Marseille pour débattre des questions liées au nouveau contexte énergétique et économique.

Les Echos: Le vent de la croissance faiblit pour l'industrie éolienne

DE NOTRE CORRESPONDANT À MARSEILLE.

De 10 % à 15 % des projets éoliens financés cette année en Europe seront impactés par la crise financière, selon une estimation du cabinet d'études New Energy Finance (NEF) rendue publique à l'occasion de la conférence européenne de l'énergie éolienne qui s'est ouverte hier à Marseille. Au total, près d'une centaine de nouveaux projets du Vieux Continent pourraient être reportés ou annulés en raison de la difficulté des entreprises à trouver les financements sur le marché bancaire. Hormis les fournisseurs d'énergie qui disposent de fonds propres suffisants pour autofinancer les investissements lourds que réclame la construction de « fermes éoliennes », nombre d'entre elles dépendent jusqu'à 80 % de l'octroi d'un prêt.

Première énergie installée en Europe

Le leader mondial du secteur Vestas évalue ainsi à un tiers le nombre de commandes brutalement stoppées, sur un chiffre d'affaires de 228 millions d'euros réalisé en France l'an passé, et enregistre des retards de trois à quatre mois sur une quantité non négligeable de gros projets. « Le carnet de commandes engrangées pendant les années fastes couvre notre activité jusqu'en 2010, note son directeur général, Nicolas Wolff. L'impact de la crise devrait se faire sentir en 2011 et pourrait alors être atténué par la reprise. » Dans une étude à paraître jeudi, le GWEC (Global Wind Energy Council) confirme la baisse. Il prévoit une réduction de la croissance des installations aux Etats-Unis, mais une poursuite des investissements au même rythme qu'en 2008 en Europe et en Chine, soit une croissance annuelle moyenne de 22 % jusqu'à 2013.

En dépit de l'accumulation des mauvaises nouvelles et des plans de relance négligeant les énergies renouvelables, le secteur reste confiant. « L'éolien est devenu la première énergie installée en Europe devant le gaz naturel, se réjouit ainsi Arthouros Zervos, président de l'Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (Ewea), qui a revu à la hausse ses prévisions

de pénétration : en 2020, 230.000 mégawatts (contre 180.000 initialement prévus) seront installés en Europe, selon l'Ewea, dont 40.000 mégawatts offshore. « Les promesses de l'éolien attirent de nouvelles sources de capitaux, qui compensent la défaillance de crédits bancaires », note Michael Liebreich, président de NEF. Ces dix-huit derniers mois, les banques ont accru leurs taux d'intérêt pour les projets éoliens de 1 % à 2 %. « Cette augmentation a été heureusement plus que compensée par la baisse des taux directeurs des banques centrales ».

Selon une importante étude conduite auprès des investisseurs institutionnels, 75 % se déclarent prêts à investir dans le secteur des énergies renouvelables à partir de 2012. Reste à savoir si l'industrie éolienne résistera d'ici là à la panne de vent.

La Provence: Eco Agenda: vos rendez-vous du jour

Publié le mardi 17 mars 2009 à 07H10

Chaque jour, vos rendez-vous emploi, immobilier, tourisme et entreprise dans l'agenda économique de LaProvence.com

Mardi 17 mars:

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Energie: la Conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) 2009, organisée par l'Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (European Wind Energy Association - EWEA), et dédiée à la Directive historique sur les énergies renouvelables adoptée en décembre 2008 par l'Union Européenne, se tient du 16 au 19 mars. Les acteurs du secteur de l'éolien ainsi que plusieurs décideurs politiques se retrouveront au palais des congrès du Parc Chanot à Marseille pour débattre des questions liées au nouveau contexte énergétique et économique.

Le Figaro : L'éolien demande des garanties bancaires

Marseille accueille le grand rendez-vous professionnel de la filière.

Marseille

Les acteurs de l'énergie éolienne, réunis pour trois jours à Marseille pour la Conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) 2009, demandent un coup de pouce financier

pour passer la crise. «Cette industrie est fondamentalement saine», a estimé Michael Liebreich, analyste du cabinet New Energy Finance lors de l'inauguration de la conférence. «L'accord de décembre 2008 entre les chefs d'État de l'Union européenne, qui oblige les 27 États membres à couvrir une partie de leurs besoins énergétiques en recourant à des énergies renouvelables, garantit les fondamentaux du secteur», a ajouté Claude Turmes, de la Commission européenne. Dans les semaines à venir, la Commission pourrait revenir sur la part des plans de relance consacrée par les différents États de la communauté aux énergies renouvelables, a-t-il indiqué. «Sur un total de plans nationaux de relance de 90 milliards d'euros, seulement 1,2 % est consacré aux investissements verts», a souligné Christian Kjaer, président de l'Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (EWEA) qui s'est indigné que la Banque européenne d'investissement consacre 8 à 10 milliards à l'industrie automobile et moins d'un milliard au renouvelable.

Plan américain

Comme d'autres secteurs, l'éolien est confronté à l'assèchement du crédit. Mais Christian Kjaer estime que le secteur a la chance de ne pas être confronté à une baisse de la demande. Il attire même de nouvelles sources de financement. Selon une étude récente, 75 % des investisseurs institutionnels indiquent qu'ils se tourneront probablement davantage vers l'éolien d'ici à 2012, annonce Michael Liebreich. Celui-ci estime que «10 à 15 % des projets devant être financés cette année seront impactés par la crise». Christian Kjaer appelle donc les gouvernements de l'UE à s'inspirer du plan de reprise américain qui prévoit des garanties d'emprunt à hauteur pour des projets liés aux énergies renouvelables. «Il faut que tous les canaux de financement, y compris les prêts bancaires et les crédits à l'exportation, soient grands ouverts pour répondre à la demande», a souhaité hier le président de l'Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne.

E24: Vents contraires sur le marché de l'éolien

(MAXPPP)

vendredi 20 mars 2009 | Publié 14:02 | Actualisé 17:22

Le marché de l'éolien est secoué. Entre 10 et 15% des projets de fermes éoliennes en Europe seront affectés par la crise financière en 2009, selon les prévisions du cabinet New Energy Finance publiées cette semaine. En clair, près d'une centaine de projets pourraient être annulés ou reportés. Le secteur est en effet particulièrement exposé aux problèmes d'accès au crédit. La construction d'un projet éolien est en effet financée jusqu'à 80% par des emprunts.

Mais ces prévisions assombries n'entament pas la confiance du secteur, qui était réuni cette semaine à Marseille à l'occasion de la conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC). La filière compte en effet sur le dynamisme du marché pour surmonter la crise. "L'énergie éolienne attire de nouvelles sources de capitaux qui compensent la réticence des

banques à octroyer des crédits aux projets", a ainsi **argumenté** l'Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (EWEA). Il est vrai que les perspectives à moyen terme sont radieuses. "La capacité mondiale en énergie éolienne va tripler dans les cinq prochaines années", assure le GWEC (Global Wind Energy Council). Et d'ici 2015, le secteur anticipe des investissements annuels de 10 milliards d'euros en Europe.

Sa bonne réputation auprès des investisseurs, l'éolien la doit en bonne partie au soutien des pouvoirs publics. Les chefs d'Etat de l'Union européenne ont signé en décembre 2008 un nouvel accord confirmant que les Etats membres doivent porter à 20% la part des énergies renouvelables dans le mix énergétique. Et ce, afin de réduire les émissions de CO2. Pour remplir cet objectif, les Etats ont mis en place des financements ad hoc. En France, l'Etat a instauré depuis quelques années déjà un prix du kilowatt/heure garanti sur 15 ans pour les exploitants de champs d'éoliennes (82 euros le mégawatt/heure).

Sans ces aides, l'éolien n'aurait pas décollé: il souffre d'une structure de coût défavorable comparé aux énergies fossiles. "Le marché favorise les investissements de court terme comme les centrales thermiques, et non pas ceux de long terme comme l'éolien", explique Jean-Philippe Roudil, délégué général du Syndicat français des énergies renouvelables (SER). Pour les investisseurs, les centrales thermiques présentent en effet des atouts plus convaincants que l'éolien, si l'ont exclu les aides de l'Etat. D'abord, l'investissement de départ est moindre: environ 0,3 million d'euros par mégawatt installé, contre 1,23 million pour l'éolien.

Ensuite, si les coûts de fonctionnement d'une centrale thermique varient en fonction du cours du baril ou du gaz, la marge reste toujours la même pour l'exploitant. Le prix de marché de l'électricité est indexé au prix du pétrole. En revanche, le propriétaire d'une ferme éolienne fait seulement face à des coûts fixes et court donc le risque de voir baisser ses marges si le prix de marché de l'électricité baisse. Le tarif fixe garanti par l'Etat annule cette incertitude sur les revenus liée aux fluctuations du prix de marché.

Grâce à ces dispositifs, les éoliennes ont poussé comme des champignons en Europe. En 2008, cette source d'énergie représentait 36% des nouvelles capacités de production électrique, soit 8,454 MW. "C'est plus que toute autre source d'énergie", s'est réjoui Arthouros Zervos, président de l'association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (AWEA). Du coup, l'AWEA s'est fixée un **nouvel objectif** d'ici 2020: atteindre une production d'énergie éolienne de 600 térawatts. De quoi alimenter 135 millions de foyers européens.

Bullettin des communes: Les professionnels de l'éolien se sont donnés rendez-vous à Marseille

par Jack Olva, Mars 18,2009

[Régler la taille du texte d'article]

Du 16 au 19 mars, quelque 6000 participants se sont donné rendez-vous à Marseille pour la conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne 2009 (EWEC). Parallèlement, près de 400 exposants parmi lesquels les grands industriels de l'éolien, présentaient leurs activités sur un espace de plus de 9000 m². Les entreprises européennes détiennent les deux tiers du marché mondial des technologies de l'énergie éolienne qui s'élève à 35 milliards d'euros [...] et il est urgent pour nous de la développer, de la promouvoir et de l'exporter du mieux que nous le pouvons, a commenté Arthouros Zervos, Président d'European Wind Energy Association (EWEA), lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence organisée par EWEA.

Rappelons que selon le dernier baromètre d'EurObserv'ER, l'Union européenne possédait sur son territoire un parc éolien de 65 GW de puissance fin 2008 mais avec un marché en légère décroissance (-1,8%; 8447 MW) par rapport à l'année précédente. L'accord concernant la Directive sur les énergies renouvelables signé en décembre 2008 et les objectifs que les États membres doivent atteindre d'ici 2020 en matière d'approvisionnement énergétique durable nous ont rendus plus optimistes pour l'avenir du secteur. Nous avons dès lors augmenté nos objectifs. Toutefois, ils ne seront atteints que si tous les États membres mettent en œuvre cette directive efficacement et dans les plus brefs délais, a estimé Arthouros Zervos. Ainsi, l'association européenne de l'énergie éolienne a révisé à la hausse son objectif pour 2020 en termes de capacité éolienne installée dans l'UE, en la portant de 180 à 230 GW, dont 40 GW pour l'éolien offshore.

Le secteur reste donc confiant en dépit de la crise financière et économique qui s'aggrave. L'énergie éolienne est incontestablement devenue une force motrice de nos économies. La crise actuelle nous a enseigné qu'il ne faut plus attendre mais agir avant que les problèmes ne se présentent. C'est maintenant qu'il faut investir dans l'énergie éolienne, a commenté Mechtild Rothe, la vice-présidente du Parlement européen. Selon une étude du cabinet d'études New Energy Finance (NEF), rendue publique à l'occasion de la conférence, 10 % à 15 % des projets éoliens financés cette année en Europe seront impactés par la crise financière. Les banques investissant moins reste donc à trouver de nouvelles sources de capitaux.

L'EWEC se tient à Marseille jusqu'au jeudi 19 mars.

C.SEGHIER

Polish Business News: Wind giving a competitive advantage

By NEWS SYSTEM

Published: March 18th, 2009

Related tags: energy, wind "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

According to the European Commission, 3.5% of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. We sit on less than 2% of the world's gas; less than 2% of its uranium and we have under 1% of the world's oil. "The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's President, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the EUR35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

Wind energy's contribution to prosperity is analysed in detail in a new EWEA report launched today, which Zervos presented to delegates. 'The Economics of Wind Energy' provides a detailed insight into wind energy economics and compares the costs of wind to those of other power-generating technologies.

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Softpedia: Wind Power More Reliable than Coal and Oil

At least as far as price fluctuations go

By Tudor Vieru, Science Editor

16th of March 2009, 11:25 GMT

One of the main arguments brought by critics to renewable energy such as solar and wind power is that these methods of generating electricity are very expensive, and that continuing

to produce the needed amounts of power from oil and coal is justified by the lower costs, especially in the crippled economy. Now, new assessments of these statements seem to prove that even this point is invalid, as economists say that the fluctuations in prices that oil and coal register are more than enough to make these two products unable to compete with wind-generated electricity, whose price doesn't fluctuate.

For Western nations, the Middle East is the main source of oil, but relying on foreign providers for the most vital part of their economy can have serious repercussions. For one, the producers are free to lift the prices per barrel whenever they want, and with no justification, thus placing their customers in a very uncomfortable position – either pay or get your oil from somewhere else. The main problem is that, for countries such as the US, the world's leading oil and coal consumer, there is no "somewhere else" wherefrom to get the amounts of oil they need.

As such, because the international crisis can severely affect the prices of oil and, implicitly, gas, as evidenced by the surges that were recorded last year, the countries getting their power from oil need to increase the costs for the general population accordingly. There is currently no way for these nations to regulate the amount of money they pay to oil producers, and so the prices fluctuate depending on the marketplace, almost each day.

On the other hand, electricity coming from wind farms, although admittedly less in amount than that obtained from burning fossil fuels, is more reliable, on account of the fact that the source (the wind) is not owned by anyone, and it costs nothing.

"Power companies which are building new electricity generating capacity are taking on that risk but if fuel prices go up, that extra cost is transferred to consumers. If the markets don't work I can't prove that wind is cheaper and that's why, even though it makes economic sense, it doesn't have a market impact yet and that's why you still need frameworks (subsidies)," European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) Chief Executive Christian Kjaer told Reuters.

"Adjusting for fuel price risk when making cost comparisons between various energy technologies is unfortunately very uncommon and the approach is not yet applied at International Energy Agency (IEA), European Commission or government level," the EWEA report said on Monday.

Express.be: Wind wordt nummer één in EU energiesector

dinsdag 17 mrt 2009

Windenergie heeft een marktaandeel van 43% veroverd bij de in 2008 nieuw opgeleverde energiecentrales. Dat blijkt uit statistieken van de European Wind Energy Association (EWEA). Het gaat om een stijging van 15% vergeleken met het jaar 2007. Gascentrales, die totnogtoe op nummer één stonden, werden ingehaald en behouden nog een aandeel van 35%. In totaal werd bijna 20 megawatt aan nieuwe centrales geopend, waarvan 8.5 megawatt aan windturbines.

Gemiddeld werden 20 windturbines per werkdag in gang gezet, waarbij 160.000 mensen direct of indirect werden tewerkgesteld. De totale investering bedroeg om en bij de € 11 miljard. Per normaal windjaar wordt 142 terrawatt-uur aan elektriciteit gegenereerd. Dit komt overeen met 4.2% van de Europese vraag naar elektriciteit. Door de toepassing van deze hernieuwbare energievorm werd voorkomen dat 108 miljoen ton CO₂ geloosd werden, wat overeen komt met de jaarlijkse uitstoot van 50 miljoen wagens.

Christian Kjaer, CEO van de EWEA, voegt eraan toe dat de Europese burger zijn verstand heeft gebruikt door te investeren in de eigen economie in plaats van dit geld naar olie-exporterende landen te laten vloeien. Duitsland en Spanje hebben de grootste windmolenparken, waarbij 10 Europese lidstaten al meer dan 1000 megawatt aan windcapaciteit hebben opgesteld. (Foto)

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Sa bonne réputation auprès des investisseurs, l'éolien la doit en bonne partie au soutien des pouvoirs publics. Les chefs d'Etat de l'Union européenne ont signé en décembre 2008 un nouvel accord confirmant que les Etats membres doivent porter à 20% la part des

énergies renouvelables dans le mix énergétique. Et ce, afin de réduire les émissions de CO2. Pour remplir cet objectif, les Etats ont mis en place des financements ad hoc. En France, l'Etat a instauré depuis quelques années déjà un prix du kilowatt/heure garanti sur 15 ans pour les exploitants de champs d'éoliennes (82 euros le mégawatt/heure).

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Guillaume Guichard

PR Newswire: Wind Energy Gives Europe a Competitive Advantage, Says EU Energy Commissioner

MARSEILLE, France, March 17 /PRNewswire/ -- "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

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under 1% of the world's oil. "The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's President, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the EUR35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

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Mechtild Rothe, Vice President of the European Parliament said that wind energy can make a real difference to employment and economies. "Wind energy is an excellent example of how to intelligently invest in a future-orientated sustainable economy getting thousands of people into jobs," she said. "Especially in these times of uncertainty it is very important that the European wind energy industry has created more than 60,000 new jobs over the past five years. These are not mere statistics - this is the competitive strength of Europe! Wind energy has definitely become a driving force of our economies. We have learned from the current crisis that we should not wait until the problems are there before we act - we need to invest in wind energy now."

Nobuo Tanaka, Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA), focused on the environmental benefits of wind energy in his presentation, saying that it "has an important role to play in climate change mitigation" but to tap into wind's full potential "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework. We need to reinforce, expand and link up our transmission networks. We must also increase research and development efforts in wind energy technology." Tanaka went on to stress the importance of focusing economic recovery plans on green investments for a short-term stimulus and long-term benefits.

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To download 'The Economics of Wind Energy', click here: http://www.ewea.org/index.php?id=11.

For more information on EWEC, seehttp://www.ewec2009.info.

Vieiros: A eólica europea podería garantir o 60% do consumo dos fogares en 2020 A Asociación Europea de Enerxía Eólica, que remata este xoves en Marsella a súa asemblea anual, marca ambiciosos obxectivos para o sector a curto prazo.

Anterior: A aposta dos EUA e China lanza a eólica mundial por riba dos 100 xigavatios

Redacción - 10:00 19/03/2009

Tags: enerxía eólica EWEA

Parque eólico na comarca do Barbanza

En apenas dez anos, seis de cada dez fogares europeos verían fornecidas as súas necesidades enerxéticas a través dos muíños eólicos. Así o considera a Asociación Europea de Enerxía Eólica (EWEA), que prevé que naquela altura o continente teña unha capacidade instalada de 230 xigavatios, unha cifra que incrementa en 50 XW a liña fixada anteriormente.

"A enerxía eólica pode reemprazar en gran medida os combustíbeis contaminantes nos que confiamos hoxe en día", sinalou Andris Pielbags, comisario de Enerxía da UE na sesión de apertura esta semana da conferencia organizada pola EWEA. "É lóxico que pasemos a investir nas nosas propias fontes de enerxía como solución fronte ao impredicíbel mercado dos combustíbeis fósiles e o cambaleo dos prezos", advertiu Pielbags, destacando que no plano eólico Europa "ten unha verdadeira vantaxe competitiva".

Sobre o mesmo asunto reparou Arthouros Zervos, o presidente da patronal eólica, agoirando que a UE está condenada a "perder a batalla" enerxética senón aposta decididamente polas enerxías alternativas. Zervos chamou a atención sobre o feito de que sexan agora mesmo as empresas europeas as que xa controlan dous terzos do millonario mercado mundial das tecnoloxías vencelladas ao sector eólico. "A enerxía do vento é unha das contribucións europeas á paz, o progreso e a prosperidade, e debe ser promovida e estimulada", pediu.

A EWEA actualiza así a súa meta de 180 XW de potencia a acadar en 2020 no sector, até os 230 XW, incluído o obxectivo específico de 40 XW en instalacións eólicas marítimas. Dese xeito, o 60% dos fogares verían as súas necesidades enerxéticas atendidas grazas á achega eólica, que cubriría de xeito global entre o 14 e o 18% da demanda eléctrica da UE. Os representantes do sector, reunidos en Marsella esta semana, amosáronse crecentemente optimistas sobre o futuro neste eido, malia advertiren que o futuro pasa tamén polo compromiso que cada un dos estados membros asuma respecto da directiva marco sobre renovábeis introducida pola unión Europea.

Guardian: Europe's energy chiefs aim for carbon-neutral electricity by 2050

David Gow in Brussels

guardian.co.uk, Thursday 19 March 2009 11.42 GMT

Article history

The heads of 61 power groups in the EU tonight have committed to achieving carbon-neutral electricity within an integrated power market by 2050.

Their declaration, handed to Andris Piebalgs, EU energy commissioner, comes as Europe is under attack for lowering its ambitions to combat climate change, handing over leadership to the US and China and reneging on efforts to help the poorest developing countries adapt to a low-carbon economy.

The chief executives, including from the four main German groups, often seen as the principal culprits of faltering progress, made energy efficiency a cornerstone of climate change policy for the first time.

Lars Josefsson, president of Eurelectric, the industry association, and head of Swedish group Vattenfall, said the sector needed to invest €1.8tn (£1.7tn) between now and 2030 to replace ageing plants, develop "smart" grids, meet surging demand and deliver on environmental targets.

"I and my fellow CEOs have reiterated our belief that a competitive functioning market is the best means to deliver on this goal in a cost-effective manner while also ensuring the basic imperative of supply security – keeping the lights on and delivering reliable power to citizens and industry."

But the chief executives, including Ian Marchant from Scottish & Southern Energy, will anger green campaigners by insisting that nuclear power as well as new renewable energies is a core component of carbon-free supply. They also demanded clean fossil technologies, including carbon capture and storage (CCS) and highly efficient combined heat and power, as other core elements. They want simplified licensing procedures for new build, including nuclear.

In a clear nod to EU leaders, who begin their spring summit in Brussels today, they added that the scale of investment required a "stable, coherent and market-orientated investment framework".

EU governments are at loggerheads over a €5bn plan by the European Commission to spend unused EU budget lines on predominantly carbon-free energy, including CCS, offshore power grids and, until this week, the Nabucco gas pipeline from the Caspian Sea to western Europe.

It will be discussed at the summit over the next two days amid signs that it is unravelling and evidence that political indecision is driving down carbon prices. Eurelectric urged the leaders to work for a global approach to the challenge of mitigating greenhouse gases, increase support for R&D and CCS and buttress market-based electricity prices. Consumers have already been warnedthat "green" energy will require price rises of up to 20%.

Welcoming the commitment, Piebalgs said: "If we want to win the battle against climate change and decarbonise EU electricity supply, we need to change completely the way we think energy production, consumption and development."

The EU's current policy objectives include cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 20% and gaining 20% of primary energy from renewables by 2020. Emissions cuts would rise to 30% if a global post-Kyoto deal is achieved at December's Copenhagen climate change summit.

Arthouros Zervos, president of the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA), said in Marseille: "If the EU is to meet its CO2 reduction and renewables targets, improve security of supply and create real competition in the European power market, we need to extend our power grids and change the way we operate them.

"At current fuel prices, electricity production costs from a new wind farm, coal plant and gas station are more or less the same. If a truly interconnected European grid existed and power markets were effective, the uncertainty of volatile carbon and fuel prices would ensure that wind – which avoids these unknown quantities – would become the most cost-effective of the three. We need the power markets to ensure that future investors are fully exposed to fuel and carbon price risk."

The EWEA said EU power markets are biased towards traditional fuels because they are dominated by vertically-integrated power groups such as Germany's E.On and RWE, France's EDF and Italy's Enel. It demands that EU leaders proceed with plans to break up these big groups by forcing them to "unbundle" or sell off their transmission activities to open up the market.

Pressebox: Wind energy's number one spot is more than justified

(pressebox) Marseille, 19.03.2009, Delegates left the European Wind Energy Conference 2009 (EWEC) today with the reminder that wind energy is Europe's number one in terms of new power capacity ringing in their ears. "In 2008, we installed 8,454 MW of wind capacity, making up 36% of power installations", stressed Arthouros Zervos, President of the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA). "That was more than any other power generating technology. There are good reasons for the wind sector's top spot: the range of benefits it offers to European citizens is unmatched by any other energy source".

There is now a total of 65 GW of wind power in the EU, which will, in a normal wind year, produce 142 TWh of electricity, equal to about 4.2% of the EU's electricity demand.

Wind energy is fuel free and so avoids volatile fuel and carbon costs. In 2008, while the oil price shot up to €147 and came unsteadily down again, wind power avoided fuel costs of €5.4 billion and CO2 costs of €2.4 billion. Furthermore, increasing the use of wind diminishes our reliance on fuel imports from unstable regions - currently, Europe imports 54% of its energy, and this is set to grow to 70% by 2030. The money pouring out of Europe to satisfy our thirst for fuels must instead be invested in indigenous and infinite power sources.

The sector is a significant creator of jobs - especially important at a time of such economic and financial instability. Between 2002 and 2007, direct employment in the sector increased by 125% - an average of 33 new jobs every day, seven days a week in Europe. The European wind energy sector employed 160,000 people directly and indirectly in 2008.

The EU has a leadership position in renewable energy. By consolidating its expertise, it can provide technology exports to other countries, boosting its global standing and economy. "In 2007, EU manufacturers installed 66% of new turbines globally," Zervos pointed out.

A wind turbine emits no CO2 or other pollutants, and over its 20-year life it will produce 80-120 times more energy than it consumes. Europe's wind energy avoided the emission of 108 million tonnes of CO2 in 2008 - equal to 31% of the EU-15's Kyoto obligations and the equivalent of taking more than 50 million cars off the roads.

"These figures demonstrate why wind is the first choice when it comes to new power installations, and why the sector has cause to celebrate at events such as EWEC," concluded Zervos. "EWEA's new 230 GW target for 2020 is one more example of the industry's confidence and the growing recognition of what wind power can offer European citizens."

As EWEC 2009 drew to a close today, Peter Hjuler from Risø DTU in Denmark announced the winners of the poster competition, which has been running throughout the four day conference. The four prizes went to Andreas Bechmann from Risø DTU, Jasper Madsen from LM Glasfiber in Denmark, George Caralis, Kostas Rados and Arthouros Zervos from NTUA in Greece and Zeljko Djurisic from the University of Belgrade, Serbia. The wind energy sector's most prestigious prize - the Poul la Cour prize - was awarded to Mechtild Rothe, Vice-President of the European Parliament, for her commitment to promoting renewable energy in Europe, including her role as rapporteur on the hugely important 2001 Renewable Electricity Directive.

In total at EWEC 2009 there were over 7,500 participants, made up of 1,900 delegates and 5,600 exhibition visitors. The exhibition covered 10,000m2 and featured 390 companies, making it three times bigger than the exhibition at EWEC 2008 in Brussels.

The conference officially came to an end with a closing speech from Bernard Susini, Deputy Mayor for Marseille, responsible for sustainable development and climate change. Next year EWEC 2010 will be held in Warsaw, Poland from 20 to 23 April.

More information on EWEC 2010 can be found on www.ewec2010.info.

Über European Wind Energy Association

EWEA is the voice of the wind industry, actively promoting the utilisation of wind power in Europe and worldwide. It now has over 550 members from 50 countries, including manufacturers with a 90% share of the world wind power market, plus component suppliers, research institutes, national wind and renewables associations, developers, electricity providers, finance and insurance companies and consultants. This combined strength makes EWEA the world's largest and most powerful wind energy network.

Bulletin des communes: Éolien : les pros demandent un coup de pouce financier par Jack Olva, Mars 20,2009

[Régler la taille du texte d'article]

AAA

Réunis pendant trois jours à Marseille pour leur conférence européenne, les acteurs de l'éolien qui s'attendent à ce que 10 à 15% des projets de 2009 soit impactés par la crise, demandent des aides des gouvernements sous forme de garanties bancaires.

Du 16 au 19 mars, quelque 6.000 participants se sont donné rendez-vous à Marseille pour la conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne 2009 (EWEC). Parallèlement, près de 400 exposants parmi lesquels les grands industriels de l'éolien, présentaient leurs activités sur un espace de plus de 9.000 m².

Les entreprises européennes détiennent les deux tiers du marché mondial des technologies de l'énergie éolienne qui s'élève à 35 milliards d'euros [...] et il est urgent pour nous de la développer, de la promouvoir et de l'exporter du mieux que nous le pouvons, a commenté Arthouros Zervos, Président d'European Wind Energy Association (EWEA), lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence organisée par EWEA.

Rappelons que selon le dernier baromètre d'EurObserv'ER, l'Union européenne possédait sur son territoire un parc éolien de 65 GW de puissance fin 2008 mais avec un marché en légère décroissance (-1,8%; 8447 MW) par rapport à l'année précédente. L'accord concernant la Directive sur les énergies renouvelables signé en décembre 2008 et les objectifs que les États membres doivent atteindre d'ici 2020 en matière d'approvisionnement énergétique durable nous ont rendus plus optimistes pour l'avenir du secteur. Nous avons dès lors augmenté nos objectifs. Toutefois, ils ne seront atteints que si tous les États membres mettent en œuvre cette directive efficacement et dans les plus brefs délais, a estimé Arthouros Zervos. Ainsi, l'association européenne de l'énergie éolienne a révisé à la hausse son objectif pour 2020 en termes de capacité éolienne installée dans l'UE, en la portant de 180 à 230 GW, dont 40 GW pour l'éolien offshore.

Face à la crise, les professionnels se montrent confiants...

Le secteur reste donc confiant en dépit de la crise financière et économique qui s'aggrave. L'énergie éolienne est incontestablement devenue une force motrice de nos économies. La crise actuelle nous a enseigné qu'il ne faut plus attendre mais agir avant que les problèmes ne se présentent. C'est maintenant qu'il faut investir dans l'énergie éolienne, a commenté Mechtild Rothe, la vice-présidente du Parlement européen.

Pourtant selon une étude du cabinet d'études New Energy Finance (NEF), rendue publique à l'occasion de la conférence, 10 % à 15 % des projets éoliens financés cette année en Europe seront impactés par la crise financière. Les gouvernements européens ont injecté des centaines de milliards d'euros pour soutenir les établissements bancaires, mais la fraction dont l'économie réelle pourrait bénéficier sous la forme de financements de projets est limitée car les banques ne sont pas disposées à reprêter cet argent. Cette difficulté à court terme ne traduit pas exactement l'attractivité du secteur à moyen terme, a commenté Michael Liebreich, analyste du cabinet New Energy Finance.

Les banques investissant moins. Reste donc à trouver de nouvelles sources de capitaux. Et le secteur se veut rassurant : en effet, une part croissante des nouvelles installations est financée par des investisseurs institutionnels, des fonds d'infrastructures et des producteurs d'électricité. Selon une étude récente, 75 % des investisseurs institutionnels déclarent qu'ils investiront probablement davantage dans l'éolien d'ici 2012, a précisé Michael Liebreich.

...mais regrettent de ne pas être plus présents dans les plans de relances!

Toutefois, selon les professionnels, les gouvernements et la Banque européenne d'investissement devraient établir des garanties de prêts pour soulager la crise des liquidités bancaires et accélérer la reprise économique. Christian Kjaer, le directeur général de l'EWEA, appelle de ce fait les gouvernements de l'UE à prendre exemple sur le plan de reprise américain qui prévoit des garanties d'emprunt à hauteur de plusieurs milliards de dollars pour des projets liés aux énergies renouvelables. Sur un total de plans nationaux de relance de 90 milliards d'euros, seulement 1,2 % est consacré aux investissements verts, a regretté Christian Kjaer tout en ajoutant que la Banque européenne d'investissement consacrerait 8 à 10 milliards à l'industrie automobile et moins d'un milliard au renouvelable. Le plan de relance économique européen devrait prévoir plus de ressources financières pour les garanties d'emprunt, a quant à lui jugé Claude Turmes, membre du Parlement européen et rapporteur pour la Directive sur les énergies renouvelables. Ils devraient suivre les plans proposés par le Parlement européen visant à dédier une partie des montants du plan de relance économique pour garantir des prêts de la Banque d'investissement européenne ou d'autres banques à des projets en matière de renouvelables avec des fonds du budget de l'UE, a-t-il ajouté.

Polish Business News: Wind giving a competitive advantage

By NEWS SYSTEM

Published: March 18th, 2009

Related tags: energy, wind "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

According to the European Commission, 3.5% of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. We sit on less than 2% of the world's gas; less than 2% of its uranium and we have under 1% of the world's oil. "The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's President, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the EUR35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

Wind energy's contribution to prosperity is analysed in detail in a new EWEA report launched today, which Zervos presented to delegates. 'The Economics of Wind Energy' provides a detailed insight into wind energy economics and compares the costs of wind to those of other power-generating technologies.

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Lexdon: Wind Energy Gives Europe a Competitive Advantage, Says EU Energy Commissioner

Monitor this Company

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Denmark: Wind takes the lead in the EU power sector

More wind power was installed in the EU in 2008 than any other electricity generating technology

New figures from the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) show that 36% of all new electricity generating capacity built in the EU in 2008 was wind energy, exceeding all other technologies including gas, coal and nuclear power, EWEA writes in a press release.

23,851 MW of new power capacity was constructed in the EU last year. Out of this total, 8,484 MW (36%) was wind power, 6,932 MW (29%) was gas, 4,200 MW (18%) was solar, 2,495 MW (10%) was oil, 762 (3%) MW was coal, 473 (2%) MW was hydro and 60 MW (0.3%) was nuclear power.

"For the first time, wind energy is the leading technology in Europe and the renewable share of new power installations was 57% in 2008. A total of 64,935 MW of installed wind energy capacity was operating in the EU by end of 2008, 15% higher than in 2007", states EWEA.

Christian Kjaer, EWEA chief executive comments: "The figures show that wind energy is the undisputed number one choice in Europe's efforts to move towards clean, indigenous renewable power."

On average 20 wind turbines were installed for every working day of 2008. In a normal year, the wind power capacity installed by the end of 2008 will produce 142 TWh of electricity, corresponding to 4.2% of electricity demand in the EU, and save 108 million tonnes of CO2 emissions annually, the equivalent of taking more than 50 million cars off the roads in Europe.

Wind energy in Denmark currently provides approx. 20 per cent of total electricity consumption.

Ends: EU wind sector upbeat on prospects for 2020

ENDS Europe

17 Mar 2009

The European wind energy association (Ewea) has raised its prediction for installed wind generating capacity in the EU in 2020 from 180 to 230 gigawatts (EE 28/07/08). Ewea made the announcement on Monday at the start of its annual conference in Marseille.

The full text of this article is only available to registered subscribers and free trialists. To login, please enter your email address and subscriber access code below.

eGovmonitor: Wind - green energy for Europe

Source: European Commission

Published Tuesday, 17 March, 2009 - 16:40

It is a pleasure for me to be here at the opening session to welcome you to the 2009 edition of the European Wind Energy Conference in Marseille. I would like to thank EWEA for organising this major event, and for inviting me again this year. I really appreciate this yearly opportunity to meet some many involved in the wind industry, and I am sure that this week's conference will be as successful as the one in Brussels a year ago.

Before reviewing the past year, and then to offer some thoughts about the challenges that lie ahead, I want to set the scene. The question I would like to answer first is: Why are we doing what we are doing on the climate and energy front?

Well, I start with the science. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has been very clear: "Warming of the climate system is unequivocal..."

Humans are the "likely" cause, and the range of forecasts suggests that we had better act now to avoid dangerous effects becoming too pronounced. Experts are warning policy-makers that there is a need to act. We know there's a problem, and we have a responsibility to act.

In March 2007, along with setting the EU's 20% renewable energy target, the Heads of State and Government also re-stated the EU's commitment to limit the increase of global average temperature to 20C above pre-industrial levels. This presupposes that emissions of global greenhouses gases are stabilised within the next two decades, and that industrialised countries reduce their emissions by 60% to 80% by 2050. It is in this context that the "20-20-20 targets" for 2020 were agreed.

There was also agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% compared to 1990 in the case of an international agreement being reached. The direction provided by the European Council is very clear.

In his report for the UK Treasury, Nicholas STERN told us very clearly that the costs of inaction were substantially greater than the costs of action. The costs of inaction could rise

as high as between 5% and 20% of lost GDP each and every year. These are extraordinarily high numbers, and are much greater than the GDP lost by economic slow downs. By comparison, the cost of the climate-energy package in 2020 is 0,45% GDP and, between now and then, GDP is forecast to increase by 38% compared to today's level. Even if GDP were not to grow by quite as much, as now seems possible, we're talking of a very small difference due to doing the right thing. This is a small price to pay to avoid the potentially catastrophic effects of irreversible climate change.

I think there's another lesson here that can be confirmed by the recent experience in financial markets: acting too late costs more than acting early. The key message of Lord Stern's Report is that there is still time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, if we take strong action now.

My fellow Commissioners and I will be working very hard, therefore, to make the climate change Summit in Copenhagen next December a success. Everyone knows that climate change is a global problem that requires a global response. I am also confident that President OBAMA will contribute enormously to consolidate a new global impetus.

I think we can all agree that the year that has gone by has been an exciting one, not least for those of us who work with energy. At times a little bit "too exciting" maybe... – to be honest this year didn't start quite as I would have hoped: thousands of EU citizens began the year without gas to keep their homes warm, their schools open or their companies running.

But the gas crisis has at least been helpful as a reminder that we cannot take energy security for granted – just in case anybody were still in doubt about that.

Wind energy can make a significant contribution to improving security of energy supplies in Europe, and the statistics increasingly demonstrate it: in 2008 more wind power capacity was installed than any other generation technology. Wind energy capacity grew by almost 15% in the EU, and even more – by almost the double, 28.8% – globally. In view of such facts, those who still think that wind energy will never be more than a "marginal" energy source are, themselves, rapidly being marginalised. Wind energy is becoming mainstream – and will be even more so in the years to come.

You may have noted that on Thursday 5 March, records of wind energy production were broken in Spain, with wind producing its highest ever output, amounting to some 11,200 MW of power, equivalent to 29,5% of Spanish demand at that time. For a weekday midmorning, that's certainly an impressive share. Obviously, this has required investment in grid capabilities, but the know-how exists. By the end of this year, RED Electrica, the Spanish grid operator, expects Spain to be producing almost a quarter of its electricity from renewable sources.

Becoming mainstream does not mean that there isn't a need for an appropriate, fair and supportive regulatory framework. Also in that respect, 2008 was a remarkable year. At last year's conference, I outlined the proposal for a new Directive to promote renewable energy

which the Commission had then recently made. Today, a year later, the Directive has already been politically agreed and will shortly be formally adopted and enter into force. This is a major achievement which will affect the wind industry for years to come, and of which all those who have contributed can be proud. The French Presidency's role in delivering this success was critical and well recognised. So is the very constructive role played by the European Parliament. But in addition, key stakeholders, and in particular the European Wind Energy Association, also engaged very constructively and helped to secure an ambitious outcome. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Association and the wind industry for this support.

But turning towards the future, what will the new Directive actually do for wind energy?

Well, first and foremost it will provide certainty about the direction and the speed with which we will move forward on renewable energy. All Member States now have legally binding targets for the share of the energy consumption that must come from renewable sources by 2020. The targets vary from Member State to Member State but one thing is sure: wind will play an important role in meeting them. Even the EU Member States with limited wind resources will be able to use wind energy to meet their targets through the so-called flexibility mechanisms provided for in the Directive. All that is needed is a government level agreement between the country where the installations are actually installed, and the country which wishes to benefit from the wind energy produced as a cost-effective means of meeting its target.

The certainty will come not just from the targets, but also from the national renewable energy action plans that Member States will prepare. These will be key instruments for investors as they will provide a transparent, shared vision for how to get to the 2020 goals, including indications of which technologies will deliver how much. My services are currently preparing a template for the national plans to be adopted in June this year by the Commission. After that the Member States must draft their plans and submit them by June 2010, and I invite all of you to get involved in the development of these plans to make sure, from the outset, that they are concrete and ambitious enough to serve as a clear roadmap on our way to 2020.

Apart from the elements designed to enhance certainty for developers and investors, the Directive contains stronger and clearer obligations on Member States to reduce the administrative burdens and other obstacles that have too often held back good renewable energy projects. These obligations will give the Commission a much better tool for making sure that Member States seriously address these problems.

So binding targets and better tools to deliver them are essentially what the new Directive gives us when it comes to wind energy. But I wish also to highlight another element: the new Directive obliges Member States to take the appropriate steps needed to develop transmission and distribution grid infrastructure "... in order to allow the secure operation of the electricity system as it accommodates the further development of electricity production

from renewable energy sources". In other words, the Member States must follow Spain's example, and prepare their grids for large-scale integration of electricity from renewable sources.

We've always known that grid issues were important for wind energy, but it will become even more so in the future. That is also why the Commission, in its Second Strategic Energy Review from November 2008, identified a number of key infrastructure projects as priorities for the years to come. Among these are a Mediterranean Energy Ring and an offshore grid in the North Western parts of Europe.

To talk about projects is in reality a significant understatement – establishing this infrastructure will require formidable financial, technical, political and human resources – so much so that, at this early stage, it would probably be more correct to talk about "visions" than "projects".

But visions must guide the shaping of reality, and the Commission is ready to play its part in doing that. We are committed to facilitating the process, and as part of that plan to present Communications on each of these two initiatives by the end of 2010. But please don't just sit back and wait for these next reports – we need the involvement of all stakeholders in finding out how to go from vision to reality, and the key part of the work is bringing the right people and resources together.

The good news is that we are already working on that. Let me give a few examples:

- * The European Coordinator for Offshore Wind Connections in North Europe appointed by the Commission, Mr Adamowitsch, has in the last $1\frac{1}{2}$ years established an open, multistakeholder forum which already has considerable success in bringing the various players together and allow for greater cross-border cooperation. I would like to acknowledge publicly the fine work he is doing. I understand that tomorrow afternoon, a special workshop organised by Mr Adamowitsch will take place here at EWEC, where the outline of what could become the first modules of a North Sea offshore grid will be discussed.
- * Secondly, in terms of industrial preparedness, the European Industrial Wind Initiative, proposed by the Commission as part of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan, is now taking shape. Facing some of the common challenges jointly will be critical for maintaining Europe's leadership in wind technology, and for developing more robust and cost-effective solutions for the offshore market. I am glad to see the leadership role taken by the industry in this respect.
- * Thirdly, as part of the EU's 7th Framework Programme on research, development and demonstration, we are right now waiting for proposals for a big collaborative project or two aimed at demonstrating technologies to optimize the electricity grids and prepare them for large-scale integration of renewable electricity, including from off-shore wind farms. The EU part of the budget alone is expected to be some EUR 35 million, so we hope and trust this will attract some good and serious proposals for projects that can really take us forward.

The big question, of course, that many ask these days, is: how will the global economic situation develop and how will the financial crisis affect the wind energy sector? I look forward to hearing your views and experience on this today, but as a starting point I am personally rather optimistic on your behalf.

Of course this doesn't mean that the shortage of credit, a low oil price and a nervous market doesn't affect the wind sector – I know it does and that it has already led to job cuts, even with the big players in the industry. And, of course, it starts by affecting the more risky segments of the market, such as offshore wind.

Why am I confident on your behalf? Because if there is a sector which has the fundamentals on its side, I would think it is the wind sector. While there is uncertainty about many things, two things appear fairly certain:

- * Electricity demand is likely to continue to increase in the coming decades;
- * As I have already indicated, the need to address climate change will impose ever tougher constraints on how that electricity is produced.

Wind energy addresses both of these challenges, and is even among the most cost-effective options for doing so.

One of the keys to success in developing renewable energies as we approach the 2020 targets and the number of installations multiply will be social acceptance, and sharing the benefits with the local communities in which the installations are sited. The wind energy industry has generally been good in bringing public opinion with it, but in the future, as installations multiply in number and in size, this will become even more important. The sector must stay in tune with the communities in which wind farms are placed, and approach them with respect, as partners.

Equally, we must not rely on the EU's present leadership on wind technologies and stop innovating. Forgetting to maintain a competitive edge by investing in R&D and instead just cashing in from growth in the easiest markets onshore, whether in the Europe, the US or elsewhere, is tempting but ultimately a recipe for long-term failure. The level of political ambition demonstrated by the adoption of the energy-climate package must be matched with a similar industrial commitment to develop an even more robust, innovative and mass scale global industry – in Europe.

Further Research and Development needs to be pursued in a number of fields. As an example, we should aim to double the size of the largest wind turbines available within the next decade, thus envisaging individual turbines of 10 MW or more. The Commission has already supported a project[1] developing concepts for such machines, and future calls under the Framework Programme will aim to have concrete prototypes and demonstrators by 2015. Last year a project was started to demonstrate 7 MW turbines at an onshore location in Belgium, but as we go even further, it is obvious that off-shore will take over as

the lead application given the logistical and landscape issues related to placing very large turbines on land.

Therefore, the industry's commitment to invest in R&D must include offshore wind, however difficult it may sometimes appear. In this field Europe has clear first-mover advantages and a competitive edge we should work to maintain. Not least at a time where other maritime based industries are declining and resources such as harbours, shipyards and people with experience are available to be redeployed.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure you know the saying by Niels BOHR that "Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future." I am nevertheless very confident that the European wind energy sector has a bright future ahead if it seizes the opportunities that lie in front of it. As Alan KAY said, "The best way to predict the future is to invent it" – so please, keep up the good work and do just that – invent the future!

Thank you for your attention!

Economia publico: Sustenta a Associação Europeia da Energia Eólica

Eólica poderá abastecer 60 por cento dos lares europeus dentro de uma década

17.03.2009 - 11h09

Por Lusa

Em 2020, a energia eólica gerada na Europa poderá abastecer o equivalente a 60 por cento dos lares europeus, sustenta hoje a Associação Europeia da Energia Eólica (EWEA).

Essa quantidade corresponderia a uma capacidade instalada de energia de procedência eólica de 230 gigawatts, que é a meta apontada pela EWEA, segundo anunciaram os seus responsáveis numa conferência que hoje começou em Marselha.

Arthouros Zervos, presidente da EWEA, defendeu as perspectivas em crescendo do aproveitamento desta energia renovável, apoiadas pelos objectivos assinalados na directiva comunitária de Energias Renováveis, na sequência do acordo alcançado em 2008.

Os 230 gigawatts são um aumento em relação aos 180 que a própria associação tinha apostado como objectivo anteriormente, explicou Zervos, precisando, no entanto, que só se alcançará essa meta se todos os Estados comunitários cumprirem com os prazos previstos.

A energia gerada por esses 230 gigawatts seria suficiente para abastecer o equivalente a 135 milhões de lares de tipo médio na UE e assim se forneceria entre 14 a 18 por cento da procura eléctrica em 2020, acrescentou Zervos.

O comissário europeu da Energia, Andris Pielbags, afirmou na mesma conferência que "a energia eólica pode substituir em grande medida os combustíveis contaminantes e finitos de que actualmente dependemos", segundo um comunicado dos organizadores da reunião.

De acordo com dados da Comissão Europeia, 3,5 por cento das reservas certificadas de carvão estão na UE mas os países da União Europeia só têm dois por cento das de gás, menos de dois por cento das de urânio e abaixo de um por cento das de petróleo de todo o mundo.

"Com o tempo a Europa perderá a batalha", alertou o comissário, recordando que as empresas europeias têm duas terças partes do mercado mundial da tecnologia da energia eólica, avaliada em 35 mil milhões de dólares.

A reunião de Marselha, que decorre até quinta-feira, abordará outros temas relacionados com a energia eólica, como assuntos políticos, técnicos e científicos.

ANP: APS: Wind Energy Gives Europe a Competitive Advantage, Says EU Energy Commissioner

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Dit is een origineel persbericht.

MARSEILLE, France, March 17 /PRNewswire/ — "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

According to the European Commission, 3.5% of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. We sit on less than 2% of the world's gas; less than 2% of its uranium and we have under 1% of the world's oil. "The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's President, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the EUR35 billion global market for wind power

technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

Wind energy's contribution to prosperity is analysed in detail in a new EWEA report launched today, which Zervos presented to delegates. 'The Economics of Wind Energy' provides a detailed insight into wind energy economics and compares the costs of wind to those of other power-generating technologies.

Zervos also announced that EWEA has increased its 2020 target for installed wind energy capacity in the EU from 180 GW to 230 GW, including 40 GW offshore. He explained that "the agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook. We have therefore increased our targets. However, these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the directive swiftly and effectively."

Previously, EWEA's target was set at 180 GW of installed capacity in the EU by 2020, including 35 GW offshore. The new 230 GW target would produce approximately 600 TWh per year in the EU by 2020, power equivalent to the needs of 135 million average EU households (60% of EU households) and meeting between 14 and 18% of EU electricity demand (depending on total demand in 2020).

Mechtild Rothe, Vice President of the European Parliament said that wind energy can make a real difference to employment and economies. "Wind energy is an excellent example of how to intelligently invest in a future-orientated sustainable economy getting thousands of people into jobs," she said. "Especially in these times of uncertainty it is very important that the European wind energy industry has created more than 60,000 new jobs over the past five years. These are not mere statistics - this is the competitive strength of Europe! Wind energy has definitely become a driving force of our economies. We have learned from the current crisis that we should not wait until the problems are there before we act - we need to invest in wind energy now."

Nobuo Tanaka, Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA), focused on the environmental benefits of wind energy in his presentation, saying that it "has an important role to play in climate change mitigation" but to tap into wind's full potential "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework. We need to reinforce, expand and link

up our transmission networks. We must also increase research and development efforts in wind energy technology." Tanaka went on to stress the importance of focusing economic recovery plans on green investments for a short-term stimulus and long-term benefits.

Roland Sunden, CEO of LM Glasfiber and Chair of EWEC 2009 said today that "in 2008, more wind was installed in the EU than any other power generating technology. The track record of wind is the most visible proof that it creates great value. And as the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant, and that relevance creates a historic window of opportunity for everybody who is committed to combating climate change, to supporting technological leadership and to creating new competitive exports and jobs."

Andre Antolini, President of the French Renewable Energy Association (SER) cited France as a specific example of the difference wind can make to the economy. He said that "in France there are now over 130 companies that produce components for - or offer services to - the wind energy sector. Wind energy helps industry and the economy." Marcin Korolec, Secretary of State for the Ministry of the Economy in Poland, agreed. "The development of wind energy stimulates the whole economy, particularly at times of crisis", he said.

Jean-Louis Bal, Renewable Energy Director at ADEME, reinforced the important effects meeting the 2020 targets will have on Europe's future, saying that "the 20-20-20 by 2020 objectives represent an important investment, but also an investment whose medium and long term benefits are far higher than the costs."

To give a visual display of the benefits of wind energy Roland Sunden switched on a 'wind energy counter', which will run until the close of EWEC. The counter will show how much electricity wind has provided in Europe, how many investments have been made and jobs created in the sector, and the number of turbines built during the four days.

EWEC is taking place in Marseille and will run until Thursday 19 March. Other sessions will cover political, grid, technical and scientific issues related to wind energy. Broadcast-standard videos highlighting the main activities at EWEC will be made available on www.thenewsmarket.com as from Tuesday, 17 March.

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SOL: Em 2020 a eólica poderá abastecer 60 por cento dos lares europeus

Em 2020, a energia eólica gerada na Europa poderá abastecer o equivalente a 60 por cento dos lares europeus, sustenta hoje a Associação Europeia da Energia Eólica (EWEA)

Essa quantidade corresponderia a uma capacidade instalada de energia de procedência eólica de 230 gigawatts, que é a meta apontada pela EWEA, segundo anunciaram os seus responsáveis numa conferência que hoje começou em Marselha.

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A reunião de Marselha, que decorre até quinta-feira, abordará outros temas relacionados com a energia eólica, como assuntos políticos, técnicos e científicos.

No sábado, no Mindelo, São Vicente, o primeiro-ministro, José Sócrates, frisou para uma plateia maioritariamente constituída por estudantes universitários, que Portugal tem «a quarta maior empresa mundial na área das energias renováveis».

«Temos o maior parque eólico da Europa e estamos a mudar o nosso paradigma energético em Portugal», sustentou ainda.

Sócrates prometeu auxiliar Cabo Verde nos seus projectos de desenvolvimento de energias renováveis, manifestando-se disponível para transferir tecnologia nacional e incentivar a participação de empresas portuguesas em parcerias.

As palavras de José Sócrates foram proferidas no pólo de São Vicente da Universidade de Cabo Verde, após a assinatura de um memorando entre os governos de Portugal e de Cabo Verde, prevendo a abertura de uma linha de crédito de 100 milhões de euros para apoiar projectos cabo-verdianos na área das energias renováveis.

TRADE PRESS

New Energy Focus: Commissioner warns wind industry of need for social acceptance

Wind industry is gathering in Marseille this week, with talk of the global credit shortage and low oil prices making for a "nervous market".

But as the 2009 European Wind Energy Conference got underway today, EU energy commissioner Andris Piebalgs said today he was "optimistic" about the prospects of wind power in Europe.

Mr Piebalgs said forecasts of continuing growth in electricity demand coupled with the need to address climate change meant the wind industry has the "fundamentals on its side".

The Commissioner said the key challenges the industry must now face were securing social acceptance for an increasing number of turbines in the landscape, and finding ways to share the benefits of installations with the local community.

Mr Piebalgs said: "The wind energy industry has generally been good in bringing public opinion with it, but in the future as installations multiply in number and in size, this will become even more important."

In his opening address to the EWEC audience, the EU Commissioner highlighted global efforts and ambitions to secure a new climate change deal at Copenhagen in December, and underlined the wind industry's contribution to the targets expected.

He stressed the need for countries to invest in their grid systems in order to better accommodate more wind energy.

And, he spoke of the work being carried out to establish offshore grids in the Mediterranean and in the North Sea - revealing that two official Communications reports would be published by the Commission in 2010 to propel the projects forward.

"Invent the future"

But while he stressed the need for the wind industry to consider its relationship with local communities as it grows, Mr Piebalgs also stressed the need for the European wind industry to continue efforts to make bigger and better wind turbines.

"We must not rely on the EU's present leadership on wind technologies and stop innovating," he warned, ending his speech with the call for wind companies in Europe to "invent the future".

We must not rely on the EU's present leadership on wind technologies and stop innovating.

Andris Piebalgs

"Forgetting to maintain a competitive edge by investing in research and development and instead just cashing in from growth in the easiest markets onshore, whether in Europe, the US or elsewhere, is tempting but ultimately a recipe for long-term failure."

Mr Piebalgs said EU wind companies should be striving to double the size of the largest wind turbines available "within the next decade", leading to devices of 10MW or more in size.

The energy commissioner envisaged 7MW turbines being used in onshore projects, but added: "it is obvious that off-shore will take over as the lead application given the logistical and landscape issues related to placing very large turbines on land."

Europe would have first mover advantages regarding offshore wind development, Mr Piebalgs claimed, which he said would be important as other maritime-based industries declined.

Rinnovabili.it: Eolico: Ewea contro EER futuro ottimistico o crisi? (EWEA + EWEC quoted)

Energia dal vento: quale futuro

Discordano le previsioni dell'Ewea e le risultanze di uno studio condotto dall'EER. Un interrogativo per lo sviluppo del settore eolico nel prossimo futuro

Mentre l'Ewea, ha fatto previsioni ottimistiche per il futuro dell'energia eolico, come ha annunciato nel suo documento a Marsiglia nel corso della conferenza Ewec, svoltasi nei giorni scorsi (vedi la nostra news), quelle dell'EER-Energig Energy Research rese note venerdì scorso, per il periodo 2009-2020, per quanto riguarda il settore dell'eolico a livello mondiale, non sono buone. Infatti dopo l'anno appena trascorso, che ha rappresentato un momento record per la produzione di energia da fonte eolica, ci sarà un periodo di regressione. La crisi finanziaria globale, avvertita alla fine 2008. E infatti la diminuzione prevista è intorno al 20% nel 2009. L'inversione di tendenza, con un crescita comunque più moderata, si dovrebbe verificare tra il 2010-2012 con un +10/20%, risultato però di investimenti a lungo termine. L'energia eolica quindi potrà contare su un mercato più maturo e stabile solo tra il 2012 e il 2020, grazie ad una crescita e e ad un'integrazione tra infrastrutture, pianificazione, sviluppo dell'opzione offshore-out, e grazie a una ottimizzazione degli investsimenti.

Renewable Energy World: Wind Prospects Positive at EWEC

While the economic downturn will have a short-term impact on the markets, political support and the growing number of utility and institutional investors will see the wind sector ride out the storm.

by David Appleyard, Associate Editor

Marseille, France [RenewableEnergyWorld.com]

Announcing new figures at the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition, which ran all this week, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) has increased its latest targets for installed wind capacity from 180 gigawatts (GW) to 230 GW by 2020. Coming at a time when global markets are in freefall, at first glance such sentiments may seem misplaced.

"It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage."

-- EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs

True enough, with the credit crunch all but stifling conventional project finance, in the short term some projects do appear vulnerable. This is anticipated to be expressed as a wave of development delays that may see installed capacity in 2009 down by as much as a fifth on 2008 figures as projects are frozen out of the market. Inevitably striking smaller developers, marginal projects and those without financing already in place, prospective offshore wind developments are looking most at risk.

Nonetheless, considering the market fundamentals the industry is convinced that the wind sector will emerge still stronger in 2010. It reasons that while more could be done to support the sector, such as government-backed credit guarantees and a more liquid, interconnected European electricity market, the political mandate to expand renewable capacity and the emergence of new sources of project finance are sufficiently robust to counteract the current economic turmoil.

Fundamental Political Support

Delivering the revised targets, Arthouros Zervos (left), president of EWEA, cited the positive political environment as being behind the move, saying: "The agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook."

"However," he warned, "these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the Directive swiftly and effectively."

EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs spoke reassuringly of high-level political support at the opening session of EWEC, the first major industry meeting since the Directive was passed, "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on. It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power, which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage."Nobuo Tanaka, executive director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), also highlighted the role that renewables have to play in the future energy scenario but he also echoed Zervos' warning that in order to tap into wind's full potential. "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework."

Tanaka contends that renewables will deliver perhaps half of the carbon cuts that are believed to be required to cap atmospheric concentrations of CO2 to 450 ppm and limit the impacts of climate change. Zervos subsequently argued that the IEA had consistently underestimated the contribution of wind to the OECD energy mix and that the IEA's suggested contributions from CCS and nuclear — as much as 50% combined — were simply "not going to happen."

Instead, he sees renewables contributing as much as 85% of the total carbon savings required. As Roland Sundén, CEO of LM Glasfiber and chair of EWEC 2009 had noted earlier, "In 2008, more wind was installed in the EU than any other power generating technology. The track record of wind is the most visible proof that it creates great value. And as the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant."

There are now a total of 65 GW of wind power in the EU, producing some 142 Terawatthours (TWh) of electricity, about 4.2% of demand.

Short-term Economic Fall Out

Despite the depth of this political support, the sector does acknowledge that it will inevitably experience a short-term slow down during the financial crisis. For example, previously the EWEA target of 180 GW included 35 GW of offshore capacity, whereas the new numbers include just 40 GW of offshore, a declining proportion that reflects the more marginal nature of such developments and the difficulty in executing such developments in the wake of the credit crunch.

Indeed, in a new analysis by Emerging Energy Research (EER), also released at the EWEC conference, the company notes that the financial crisis is to some extent stalling Europe's wind energy market, with new wind plant commissions dropping by as much as 19% this year when compared to 2008. The company's analysis finds that Europe is expected to add 7836 megawatts (MW) of wind capacity in 2009, down from 9556 MW in 2008. Western Europe will see the biggest drop in MW added, it says, while longer term, riskier markets in Eastern Europe and offshore may see delays.

The company says that the global credit crunch is leading to project postponements in key scaling markets such as the UK, Italy and France. With project finance almost frozen, only

large players with strong balance sheets will be able to build new capacity in 2009, it says. Furthermore, according to EER, major utilities such as EDP, Iberdrola, Endesa, E.ON or RWE have already secured financing for their short-term pipelines, while smaller players have been forced to look for partners or to put their growth plans on stand-by.

Even so EER also concludes that the long-term fundamentals of Europe's wind energy sector remain strong, particularly after 2010.

Growth in New Markets in the Long-Term

Improved liquidity in Europe's credit markets, anticipated by the end of 2009, will likely boost growth in 2010 to 2008 levels, and steady growth is expected after 2011, helped by an expanding offshore wind market, with the overall wind market in Europe expected to surpass 16 GW in annual additions by 2020, says EER.

According to the analysis, Spain will keep its position as the largest onshore wind growth market in Europe throughout most of the forecast period, and despite a slow start, France will be the leading onshore growth market in Europe in 2010 and onward, due mainly to improvements to the permitting process, larger projects, higher wind incentives and the presence of leading wind players. In addition, Poland, Turkey, Romania, and Bulgaria, will add a combined average of 1.1 GW per year between 2009 and 2020, while Nordic onshore will start ramping up as Finland, Norway and Sweden define support schemes and development plans.

Offshore will be a key component to boosting Europe's long-term growth prospects. EER forecasts that Europe will add over 1100 MW in 2010 offshore, led by a diverse group of markets including UK, Germany, and to a lesser extent Sweden. Projection for offshore installations during 2009 comes in at around 340 MW. European offshore activity is expected to account for as much as 27% of installed capacity in 2020 across 12 European countries. "Offshore developments will be the cornerstone of the development of utilities including E.ON, Centrica, DONG, Vattenfall, or RWE," said EER's senior analyst Eduard Sala de Vedruna.

EER further forecasts that global wind energy markets will grow from the 29 GW added in 2009 to over 61 GW in 2020, although Europe, the global wind energy market leader in 2008, will be overtaken by Asia and North America. "European markets will have to turn to offshore, repowering, and emerging markets for growth," he added. (See chart, below, depicting the predicted European wind energy annual GW added from 2008-2020. Source: Emerging Energy Research)

Support Measures

EWEA also concedes that while the wind energy sector is attracting new sources of capital that compensate for banks' reluctance to provide project finance — such as a growing number of power companies with strong balance sheets and increasing interest from

institutional investors — governments and the European Investment Bank must urgently establish loan guarantees to ease the banking liquidity squeeze and accelerate economic recovery.

"EU governments should learn a lesson from the U.S. recovery plan, which provides billions of dollars in loan guarantees to renewables. We need all channels of finance, including bank lending and export credits, to be wide open to meet demand," said EWEA CEO Christian Kjaer. "This short-term difficulty does not accurately reflect the medium-term attractiveness of the sector. In a recent survey we found that 75% of institutional investors say they are likely to invest more in the sector by 2012," added Michael Liebreich of analysts New Energy Finance, also speaking at the conference.

Despite the depth of the financial crisis, the sector expects to be among the first to emerge from it and "if anything, wind energy is less risky today than a year ago, following the EU Heads of States' agreement in December 2008 to set binding national targets for the share of renewable energy in all 27 Member States," Liebreich continued.

"Wind power investments carry more economic certainty than other energy investments since investors are not exposed to unpredictable fuel and carbon prices," Kjaer concluded.

However, EWEA also set out a series of measures, which it says are vital if this rapid recovery is to be achieved.

Among these requirements is the passage of the European Commission's €5 billion recovery plan that is due to be voted on by EU heads of state at the current spring summit. The plan will then head for approval by the European Parliament.

The €565 million that the plan dedicates to finance offshore wind, including the first stage of a North Sea offshore grid, will create jobs, provide new R&D opportunities to make the power sector more efficient and less expensive, improve operations and maintenance, and speed up market deployment, says EWEA.

Meanwhile, EWEA has also called for the development of an extended grid with changed operating procedures, which it says is necessary to rejuvenate the EU's power system, and will help reduce its operational costs.

"At current fuel prices, electricity production costs from a new wind farm, coal plant and gas station are more or less the same. If a truly interconnected European grid existed and power markets were effective, the uncertainty of volatile carbon and fuel prices would ensure that wind, which avoids these unknown quantities, would become the most cost-effective of the three," explained Zervos, adding: "We need the power markets to work to ensure that future investors are fully exposed to fuel and carbon price risk."

"If the EU is to meet its CO2 reduction and renewables targets, improve security of supply and create real competition in the European power market, we need to extend our power grids and change the way we operate them," Zervos concluded.

Don't forget to look out for the upcoming report by our Technology Correspondent, Eize de Vries, on the latest wind sector technology developments revealed at EWEC 2009.

Windpower Monthly: Wind finding its way in liquidity crisis

Windpower Monthly: Pioneering passion missing in Marseille

Erneuerbare Energien: Neues Ziel ins Visier genommen

Notre Planete: L'énergie éolienne assure à l'Europe un avantage économique à renforcer

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« L'énergie éolienne peut remplacer une grande partie des carburants polluants disponibles en quantités finies et dont nous dépendons aujourd'hui », a expliqué hier matin Andris Piebalgs, Commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie, lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence et exposition européennes sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) organisée par EWEA (European Wind Energy Association). « Il est tout à fait approprié d'investir dans des sources d'énergie locales qui prémunissent contre les fluctuations des cours des carburants fossiles et dans lesquelles l'Europe a un réel avantage compétitif ».

D'après la Commission européenne, l'UE détient 3,5 % des réserves de charbon au niveau mondial. Son sous-sol renferme moins de 2 % des réserves de gaz mondial, moins de 2 % de l'uranium mondial et moins d'un pour cent du pétrole mondial. « La lutte pour le contrôle des ressources de carburants dont les réserves s'épuisent rapidement gagne déjà en intensité », a souligné Arthouros Zervos, Président d'EWEA, lors de la séance d'ouverture. « Elle ne pourra que s'intensifier avec le temps et l'Europe perdra cette bataille. Les entreprises européennes détiennent les deux tiers du marché mondial des technologies de l'énergie éolienne qui s'élève à 35 milliards d'euros. L'énergie éolienne est la contribution de l'Europe à la paix, au progrès et à la prospérité et il est urgent pour nous de la développer, de la promouvoir et de l'exporter du mieux que nous le pouvons ».

La contribution de l'énergie éolienne à la prospérité est analysée en détail dans un nouveau rapport publié hier par EWEA et présenté aux participants par Arthouros Zervos. Ce document intitulé « The Economics of Wind Energy » offre un panorama complet de l'économie de l'énergie éolienne et compare les coûts du vent à ceux d'autres technologies

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Mechtild Rothe, vice-présidente du Parlement européen a affirmé que l'énergie éolienne peut avoir des retombées considérables sur l'emploi et l'économie. « L'énergie éolienne est un excellent exemple qui montre comment investir intelligemment dans une économie durable tournée vers l'avenir en permettant à des milliers de personnes de trouver un emploi », a-t-elle déclaré. « Et notamment en ces temps d'incertitude, il est très important que le secteur de l'énergie éolienne en Europe ait créé plus de 60 000 nouveaux emplois au cours des cinq dernières années. Il ne s'agit pas que de simples chiffres. Il s'agit de la force compétitive de l'Europe! »L'énergie éolienne est incontestablement devenue une force motrice de nos économies. La crise actuelle nous a enseigné qu'il ne faut plus attendre mais agir avant que les problèmes ne se présentent. C'est maintenant qu'il faut investir dans l'énergie éolienne ».

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Selon Roland Sundén, PDG de LM Glasfiber et Président de l'EWEC 2009, « en 2008, la

capacité éolienne installée en UE dépasse toutes les autres technologies génératrices d'électricité. Les résultats enregistrés par le secteur éolien sont la preuve la plus tangible que le vent est créateur d'une valeur appréciable. Alors que la crise financière et économique s'aggrave, cela devient particulièrement pertinent, et cette pertinence ouvre une fenêtre d'opportunités historique à tous ceux qui sont engagés à lutter contre les changements climatiques, à soutenir le leadership technologique et à créer de nouvelles exportations compétitives et des emplois ».

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En savoir plus

Notes

L'EWEC se tient à Marseille jusqu'au jeudi 19 mars. D'autres séances aborderont des questions politiques, techniques, scientifiques et de réseaux liées à l'énergie éolienne. Des séquences vidéo couvrant les temps forts de l'EWEC seront consultables en qualité "broadcast" sur www.thenewsmarket.com à partir du mardi 17 mars.

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Actualité durable: L'énergie éolienne offre à l'Europe un avantage compétitif selon le Commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie

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Rinnovabili.it: Eolico: Ewea contro EER futuro ottimistico o crisi? (EWEA + EWEC quoted)

Energia dal vento: quale futuro

Discordano le previsioni dell'Ewea e le risultanze di uno studio condotto dall'EER. Un interrogativo per lo sviluppo del settore eolico nel prossimo futuro

Mentre l'Ewea, ha fatto previsioni ottimistiche per il futuro dell'energia eolico, come ha annunciato nel suo documento a Marsiglia nel corso della conferenza Ewec, svoltasi nei giorni scorsi (vedi la nostra news), quelle dell'EER-Energig Energy Research rese note venerdì scorso, per il periodo 2009-2020, per quanto riguarda il settore dell'eolico a livello mondiale, non sono buone. Infatti dopo l'anno appena trascorso, che ha rappresentato un momento record per la produzione di energia da fonte eolica, ci sarà un periodo di regressione. La crisi finanziaria globale, avvertita alla fine 2008. E infatti la diminuzione prevista è intorno al 20% nel 2009. L'inversione di tendenza, con un crescita comunque più moderata, si dovrebbe verificare tra il 2010-2012 con un +10/20%, risultato però di investimenti a lungo termine. L'energia eolica quindi potrà contare su un mercato più

maturo e stabile solo tra il 2012 e il 2020, grazie ad una crescita e e ad un'integrazione tra infrastrutture, pianificazione, sviluppo dell'opzione offshore-out, e grazie a una ottimizzazione degli investsimenti.

EcoDiario: El sector eólico espanol acude a la feria europea de la energía eólica MADRID, 16 (SERVIMEDIA) La Asociación Empresarial Eólica (AEE) está presente en EWEC 2009, la Feria Europea de Energía Eólica que organiza anualmente la Asociación Europea de Energía Eólica (EWEA), y que se celebra desde hoy hasta el próximo jueves en Marsella

(Francia).

AEE, miembro asociado de EWEA, cuenta con un "stand" que acogerá a varias empresas españolas para mostrar el liderazgo español en el sector eólico mundial, tanto por la potencia eólica instalada, que alcanza los 16.740 MW (megavatios) y con 1.609 MW nuevos en 2008, como por la presencia de promotores y fabricantes en los principales mercados del mundo.

Las empresas españolas asociadas a AEE que participan en la feria, tanto con "stand" propio como en el agrupado, son Energy To Quality, Ereda, Inneo Torres, Kintech Engineering, MTorres, Normawind, W2PS, Aeroblade, Gamesa, Barlovento, Meteosim Truewind, Ingeteam e Isastur.

EWEC 2009, con más de 4.000 participantes de más de 80 países inscritos hasta el momento, es la convocatoria general anual de la comunidad internacional de la energía eólica, que reúne a todas las disciplinas que afectan a la industria eólica (negocios, política, ciencia y tecnología).

El programa de la conferencia cuenta con más de 300 ponentes. España está representada por 25 ponentes que participan en las más de 50 sesiones de la conferencia.

(SERVIMEDIA) 16-MAR-2009 CCB/isp

Discapnet: EL SECTOR EÓLICO ESPAÑOL ACUDE A LA FERIA EUROPEA DE LA ENERGÍA EÓLICA

MADRID, 16-MAR-2009

La Asociación Empresarial Eólica (AEE) está presente en EWEC 2009, la Feria Europea de Energía Eólica que organiza anualmente la Asociación Europea de Energía Eólica (EWEA), y que se celebra desde hoy hasta el próximo jueves en Marsella (Francia).

AEE, miembro asociado de EWEA, cuenta con un "stand" que acogerá a varias empresas españolas para mostrar el liderazgo español en el sector eólico mundial, tanto por la potencia eólica instalada, que alcanza los 16.740 MW (megavatios) y con 1.609 MW nuevos en 2008, como por la presencia de promotores y fabricantes en los principales mercados del mundo.

Las empresas españolas asociadas a AEE que participan en la feria, tanto con "stand" propio como en el agrupado, son Energy To Quality, Ereda, Inneo Torres, Kintech Engineering, MTorres, Normawind, W2PS, Aeroblade, Gamesa, Barlovento, Meteosim Truewind, Ingeteam e Isastur.

EWEC 2009, con más de 4.000 participantes de más de 80 países inscritos hasta el momento, es la convocatoria general anual de la comunidad internacional de la energía eólica, que reúne a todas las disciplinas que afectan a la industria eólica (negocios, política, ciencia y tecnología).

El programa de la conferencia cuenta con más de 300 ponentes. España está representada por 25 ponentes que participan en las más de 50 sesiones de la conferencia.

Rinnovabilit.it: Marsiglia, 16 marzo 09: Si apre EWEC2009

Marsiglia, per 4 giorni capitale dell'energia eolica

Da oggi fino al 19 marzo, la città ospita l'EWEC del 2009 la Conferenza europea dell'energia eolica. Attesi sei mila professionisti e specialisti del settore

Se dalla tre giorni scientifica di Copenaghen della scorsa settimana sono uscite ben poche notizie positive l'European Wind Energy Conference (EWEC 2009), che si apre oggi a Marsiglia, dovrà dimostrare di essere decisamente più ottimista nel ritmo, tenore e tempistica. Questo è ciò che spera l'EWEA l'Associazione europea di settore organizzatrice della mostra-convegno, giunta oramai alla sua quinta edizione. Partendo dalla volontà di mitigare il problema del Climate Change l'evento – che quest'anno ha attirato oltre 390 espositori, distribuiti su 9000 m2 – si presenta come un'opportunità unica per i decision makers europei ed i leader di settore per impegnarsi in un dialogo costruttivo sulle barriere, le sfide e le opportunità di sviluppo e sfruttamento dell'energia eolica. Nel giro di quattro giorni, più di 500 relatori in oltre 50 sessioni, seminari ed eventi collaterali cercheranno di coprire ogni aspetto del mercato dell'energia eolica, a partire da tecniche e teorie fino alla politica e la pratica. Anche in quest'edizione torna Job Fair l'appuntamento che offrirà un momento di incontro per i potenziali datori di lavoro, i nuovi laureati e professionisti con esperienza nel campo. Per l'occasione sarà proiettato "The age of stupid" il film documentario diretto da Franny Armstrong, che narra la storia dell'ultimo uomo rimasto al

mondo nell'anno 2055 che rifugiatosi nell'Archivio Globale, guarda dei vecchi filmati a partire dal 2008 per capire che cosa è andato storto e "perché non si è fermato il cambiamento climatico, quando se ne aveva ancora la possibilità?"

Environmental Expert: Wind - green energy for Europe

Source: European Commission, Environment DG

Published Mar. 16, 2009

Opening speech at the European Wind Energy Conf. by Andris Piebalgs Marseille, 16 March 2009

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure for me to be here at the opening session to welcome you to the 2009 edition of the European Wind Energy Conference in Marseille. I would like to thank EWEA for organising this major event, and for inviting me again this year. I really appreciate this yearly opportunity to meet some many involved in the wind industry, and I am sure that this week's conference will be as successful as the one in Brussels a year ago.

Before reviewing the past year, and then to offer some thoughts about the challenges that lie ahead, I want to set the scene. The question I would like to answer first is: Why are we doing what we are doing on the climate and energy front?

Well, I start with the science. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has been very clear: 'Warming of the climate system is unequivocal...'

Humans are the 'likely' cause, and the range of forecasts suggests that we had better act now to avoid dangerous effects becoming too pronounced. Experts are warning policy-makers that there is a need to act. We know there's a problem, and we have a responsibility to act.

In March 2007, along with setting the EU's 20% renewable energy target, the Heads of State and Government also re-stated the EU's commitment to limit the increase of global average temperature to 20C above pre-industrial levels. This presupposes that emissions of global greenhouses gases are stabilised within the next two decades, and that industrialised countries reduce their emissions by 60% to 80% by 2050. It is in this context that the '20-20-20 targets' for 2020 were agreed.

There was also agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% compared to 1990 in the case of an international agreement being reached. The direction provided by the European Council is very clear.

In his report for the UK Treasury, Nicholas STERN told us very clearly that the costs of inaction were substantially greater than the costs of action. The costs of inaction could rise as high as between 5% and 20% of lost GDP each and every year. These are extraordinarily high numbers, and are much greater than the GDP lost by economic slow downs. By comparison, the cost of the climate-energy package in 2020 is 0,45% GDP and, between now and then, GDP is forecast to increase by 38% compared to today's level. Even if GDP were not to grow by quite as much, as now seems possible, we're talking of a very small difference due to doing the right thing. This is a small price to pay to avoid the potentially catastrophic effects of irreversible climate change.

I think there's another lesson here that can be confirmed by the recent experience in financial markets: acting too late costs more than acting early. The key message of Lord Stern's Report is that there is still time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, if we take strong action now.

My fellow Commissioners and I will be working very hard, therefore, to make the climate change Summit in Copenhagen next December a success. Everyone knows that climate change is a global problem that requires a global response. I am also confident that President OBAMA will contribute enormously to consolidate a new global impetus.

I think we can all agree that the year that has gone by has been an exciting one, not least for those of us who work with energy. At times a little bit 'too exciting' maybe... – to be honest this year didn't start quite as I would have hoped: thousands of EU citizens began the year without gas to keep their homes warm, their schools open or their companies running.

But the gas crisis has at least been helpful as a reminder that we cannot take energy security for granted – just in case anybody were still in doubt about that.

Wind energy can make a significant contribution to improving security of energy supplies in Europe, and the statistics increasingly demonstrate it: in 2008 more wind power capacity was installed than any other generation technology. Wind energy capacity grew by almost 15% in the EU, and even more – by almost the double, 28.8% – globally. In view of such facts, those who still think that wind energy will never be more than a 'marginal' energy source are, themselves, rapidly being marginalised. Wind energy is becoming mainstream – and will be even more so in the years to come.

You may have noted that on Thursday 5 March, records of wind energy production were broken in Spain, with wind producing its highest ever output, amounting to some 11,200 MW of power, equivalent to 29,5% of Spanish demand at that time. For a weekday midmorning, that's certainly an impressive share. Obviously, this has required investment in grid capabilities, but the know-how exists. By the end of this year, RED Electrica, the Spanish grid operator, expects Spain to be producing almost a quarter of its electricity from renewable sources.

Becoming mainstream does not mean that there isn't a need for an appropriate, fair and supportive regulatory framework. Also in that respect, 2008 was a remarkable year. At last year's conference, I outlined the proposal for a new Directive to promote renewable energy which the Commission had then recently made. Today, a year later, the Directive has already been politically agreed and will shortly be formally adopted and enter into force. This is a major achievement which will affect the wind industry for years to come, and of which all those who have contributed can be proud. The French Presidency's role in delivering this success was critical and well recognised. So is the very constructive role played by the European Parliament. But in addition, key stakeholders, and in particular the European Wind Energy Association, also engaged very constructively and helped to secure an ambitious outcome. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Association and the wind industry for this support.

But turning towards the future, what will the new Directive actually do for wind energy?

Well, first and foremost it will provide certainty about the direction and the speed with which we will move forward on renewable energy. All Member States now have legally binding targets for the share of the energy consumption that must come from renewable sources by 2020. The targets vary from Member State to Member State but one thing is sure: wind will play an important role in meeting them. Even the EU Member States with limited wind resources will be able to use wind energy to meet their targets through the so-called flexibility mechanisms provided for in the Directive. All that is needed is a government level agreement between the country where the installations are actually installed, and the country which wishes to benefit from the wind energy produced as a cost-effective means of meeting its target.

The certainty will come not just from the targets, but also from the national renewable energy action plans that Member States will prepare. These will be key instruments for investors as they will provide a transparent, shared vision for how to get to the 2020 goals, including indications of which technologies will deliver how much. My services are currently preparing a template for the national plans to be adopted in June this year by the Commission. After that the Member States must draft their plans and submit them by June 2010, and I invite all of you to get involved in the development of these plans to make sure, from the outset, that they are concrete and ambitious enough to serve as a clear roadmap on our way to 2020.

Apart from the elements designed to enhance certainty for developers and investors, the Directive contains stronger and clearer obligations on Member States to reduce the administrative burdens and other obstacles that have too often held back good renewable energy projects. These obligations will give the Commission a much better tool for making sure that Member States seriously address these problems.

So binding targets and better tools to deliver them are essentially what the new Directive gives us when it comes to wind energy. But I wish also to highlight another element: the new

Directive obliges Member States to take the appropriate steps needed to develop transmission and distribution grid infrastructure '... in order to allow the secure operation of the electricity system as it accommodates the further development of electricity production from renewable energy sources'. In other words, the Member States must follow Spain's example, and prepare their grids for large-scale integration of electricity from renewable sources.

We've always known that grid issues were important for wind energy, but it will become even more so in the future. That is also why the Commission, in its Second Strategic Energy Review from November 2008, identified a number of key infrastructure projects as priorities for the years to come. Among these are a Mediterranean Energy Ring and an offshore grid in the North Western parts of Europe.

To talk about projects is in reality a significant understatement – establishing this infrastructure will require formidable financial, technical, political and human resources – so much so that, at this early stage, it would probably be more correct to talk about 'visions' than 'projects'.

But visions must guide the shaping of reality, and the Commission is ready to play its part in doing that. We are committed to facilitating the process, and as part of that plan to present Communications on each of these two initiatives by the end of 2010. But please don't just sit back and wait for these next reports – we need the involvement of all stakeholders in finding out how to go from vision to reality, and the key part of the work is bringing the right people and resources together.

The good news is that we are already working on that. Let me give a few examples:

The European Coordinator for Offshore Wind Connections in North Europe appointed by the Commission, Mr Adamowitsch, has in the last $1\frac{1}{2}$ years established an open, multistakeholder forum which already has considerable success in bringing the various players together and allow for greater cross-border cooperation. I would like to acknowledge publicly the fine work he is doing. I understand that tomorrow afternoon, a special workshop organised by Mr Adamowitsch will take place here at EWEC, where the outline of what could become the first modules of a North Sea offshore grid will be discussed.

Secondly, in terms of industrial preparedness, the European Industrial Wind Initiative, proposed by the Commission as part of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan, is now taking shape. Facing some of the common challenges jointly will be critical for maintaining Europe's leadership in wind technology, and for developing more robust and cost-effective solutions for the offshore market. I am glad to see the leadership role taken by the industry in this respect.

Thirdly, as part of the EU's 7th Framework Programme on research, development and demonstration, we are right now waiting for proposals for a big collaborative project or two aimed at demonstrating technologies to optimize the electricity grids and prepare them for

large-scale integration of renewable electricity, including from off-shore wind farms. The EU part of the budget alone is expected to be some EUR 35 million, so we hope and trust this will attract some good and serious proposals for projects that can really take us forward.

The big question, of course, that many ask these days, is: how will the global economic situation develop and how will the financial crisis affect the wind energy sector? I look forward to hearing your views and experience on this today, but as a starting point I am personally rather optimistic on your behalf.

Of course this doesn't mean that the shortage of credit, a low oil price and a nervous market doesn't affect the wind sector – I know it does and that it has already led to job cuts, even with the big players in the industry. And, of course, it starts by affecting the more risky segments of the market, such as offshore wind.

Why am I confident on your behalf? Because if there is a sector which has the fundamentals on its side, I would think it is the wind sector. While there is uncertainty about many things, two things appear fairly certain:

Electricity demand is likely to continue to increase in the coming decades;

As I have already indicated, the need to address climate change will impose ever tougher constraints on how that electricity is produced.

Wind energy addresses both of these challenges, and is even among the most cost-effective options for doing so.

One of the keys to success in developing renewable energies as we approach the 2020 targets and the number of installations multiply will be social acceptance, and sharing the benefits with the local communities in which the installations are sited. The wind energy industry has generally been good in bringing public opinion with it, but in the future, as installations multiply in number and in size, this will become even more important. The sector must stay in tune with the communities in which wind farms are placed, and approach them with respect, as partners.

Equally, we must not rely on the EU's present leadership on wind technologies and stop innovating. Forgetting to maintain a competitive edge by investing in R&D and instead just cashing in from growth in the easiest markets onshore, whether in the Europe, the US or elsewhere, is tempting but ultimately a recipe for long-term failure. The level of political ambition demonstrated by the adoption of the energy-climate package must be matched with a similar industrial commitment to develop an even more robust, innovative and mass scale global industry – in Europe.

Further Research and Development needs to be pursued in a number of fields. As an example, we should aim to double the size of the largest wind turbines available within the next decade, thus envisaging individual turbines of 10 MW or more. The Commission has already supported a project[1] developing concepts for such machines, and future calls

under the Framework Programme will aim to have concrete prototypes and demonstrators by 2015. Last year a project was started to demonstrate 7 MW turbines at an onshore location in Belgium, but as we go even further, it is obvious that off-shore will take over as the lead application given the logistical and landscape issues related to placing very large turbines on land.

Therefore, the industry's commitment to invest in R&D must include offshore wind, however difficult it may sometimes appear. In this field Europe has clear first-mover advantages and a competitive edge we should work to maintain. Not least at a time where other maritime based industries are declining and resources such as harbours, shipyards and people with experience are available to be redeployed.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure you know the saying by Niels BOHR that 'Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future.' I am nevertheless very confident that the European wind energy sector has a bright future ahead if it seizes the opportunities that lie in front of it. As Alan KAY said, 'The best way to predict the future is to invent it' – so please, keep up the good work and do just that – invent the future!

Thank you for your attention!

Greenreport.it: Vento verde per l'Europa ad Ewec 2009

LIVORNO. Il commissario Ue all'energia, Andris Piebalgs., ha aperto oggi a Marsiglia "Wind – green energy for Europe" la European Wind Energy Conference - Ewec 2009, organizzata da Ewea sottolineando che «Il Gruppo intergovernativo sui cambiamenti climatici è stato molto chiaro: "Il riscaldamento del sistema climatico è inequivocabile ..." Gli esseri umani sono la "probabile" causa, e la gamma delle previsioni indica che faremmo meglio ad agire ora per evitare gli effetti pericolosi diventino troppo acuti»

Piebalgs ha ricordato il pacchetto clima-energia dell'Ue che prevede di stabilizzare in 209 anni le emissioni europee ed ha sottolineato: «Nel suo rapporto per il Tesoro britannico, Nicholas Stern ci ha detto molto chiaramente che i costi dell'inazione sarebbero notevolmente superiori ai costi dell'intervento. I costi dell'inazione potrebbe raggiungere al livello più elevato, tra il 5% e il 20% del Pil perso ogni anno. Questi numeri sono eccezionalmente alti, e sono di gran lunga superiore al Pil perso se l'economia rallentasse. In confronto, il costo del pacchetto clima-energia nel 2020 è lo 0,45% del Pil e, fino ad allora, il Pil è previsto in aumento del 38% rispetto al livello odierno. Anche se il Pil non crescesse molto più, come oggi sembra possibile, stiamo parlando di una piccola differenza dovuta per fare la cosa giusta. Questo è un piccolo prezzo da pagare per evitare i potenziali effetti catastrofici dei cambiamenti climatici irreversibili. Credo che ci sia un altro insegnamento che può essere confermato dalla recente esperienza nei mercati finanziari: agire tardi costa di più che agire presto. Il messaggio chiave del rapporto di Stern è

che c'è ancora tempo per evitare i peggiori impatti dei cambiamenti climatici, se intraprendiamo subito una forte azione».

Il commissario europeo ha poi parlato della svolta di Obama e dell'impegno per arrivare a Copenhagen con una proposta unitaria dell'Ue, ma si è detto preoccupato della fragilità dimostrata dall'Europa con la crisi del gas russo-ucraina che ha messo a nudo tutta l'insicurezza energetica dell'Ue. «L'energia eolica può dare un contributo significativo al miglioramento della sicurezza degli approvvigionamenti energetici in Europa, e le statistiche lo dimostrano sempre più: nel 2008 è stata installata più potenza eolica di qualsiasi altra tecnologia di generazione di energia. La capacità eolica è aumentata di circa il 15% nell'Unione europea, e ancor più, quasi il doppio, 28,8%, a livello mondiale. Alla luce di tali fatti, coloro che ancora pensano che l'energia eolica non potrà mai essere più di una "marginale" fonte di energia sono, essi stessi, di essere rapidamente emarginati. L'energia eolica sta diventando "mainstream" e lo sarà ancora di più negli anni a venire».

Il 5 marzo la Spagna ha stracciato il suo record di produzione di energia eolica arrivando a circa 11.200 MW, pari al 29,5% della domanda del Paese in quel momento. Segno di una tecnologia matura che ha richiesto investimenti nella rete di distribuzione, ma che ha portato RED Electrica a prevedere che entro l'estate un quarto del fabbisogno proverrà da energie rinnovabili. Nonostante i successi dell'eolico per Piebalgs c'è ancora la necessità di rendere il quadro normativo europeo e nazionale più equo ed adeguato alle necessità, anche con la nuova direttiva che «in primo luogo fornirà la certezza sulla direzione e la velocità con la quale ci si sposta in avanti in materia di energia rinnovabile. Tutti gli Stati membri hanno ora obiettivi giuridicamente vincolanti per le quote di consumo energetico che devono provenire da fonti rinnovabili entro il 2020. Gli obiettivi variano da uno Stato membro all'altro, ma una cosa è certa: il vento giocherà un ruolo importante nel loro insieme. Anche per gli Stati membri dell'Ue con limitate risorse di vento sarà in grado di utilizzare l'energia eolica per soddisfare i loro obiettivi attraverso i cosiddetti meccanismi di flessibilità previsti dalla direttiva. Tutto quello che occorre è un governo a livello di accordo tra il Paese in cui gli impianti sono effettivamente installati e il Paese che desideri beneficiare del vento come energia prodotta a basso costo e come mezzo per rispettare il suo obiettivo».

La Commissione Ue, nella sua seconda analisi strategica della politica energetica, a partire dal novembre 2008, ha individuato una serie di importanti progetti di infrastrutture prioritarie per il futuro come Mediterranean Energy Ring e l'offshore grid nell'Europa nord-occidentale. Lo scenario tracciato da Piebalgs deve fare i conti con «La grande domanda che, naturalmente, fanno molti in questi giorni: come sarà la situazione economica mondiale e come lo sviluppo della crisi finanziaria inciderà sul settore dell'energia eolica? Attendo con ansia di sentire le vostre opinioni ed esperienze su questo, ma come punto di partenza sono personalmente piuttosto ottimista sul tuo conto. Naturalmente questo non significa che la carenza di credito, un basso prezzo del petrolio ed un mercato nervoso non pregiudichino il settore dell'eolico. Lo so che succede e che ha già portato a tagli di posti di lavoro, anche tra i grandi protagonisti

dell'industria. E, naturalmente, si inizia con quelle che interessano i segmenti del mercato più rischiosi, come ad esempio gli impianti eolici offshore. Perché io sono fiducioso? Perché se c'è un settore che ha dalla sua parte i fondamentali mi sembra sia il settore dell'eolico. Anche se c'è incertezza su molte cose, due cose sembrano abbastanza certa: La domanda di elettricità è probabile che continuerà ad aumentare nei prossimi decenni. Come ho già detto, con la necessità di affrontare il cambiamento climatico sarà anche sempre più difficile imporre vincoli sul modo in cui l'elettricità viene prodotta. L'energia eolica è una maniera per affrontare queste sfide, ed è anche tra le più efficaci rispetto ai costi delle varie opzioni per farlo».

Cotizalia: En 2020 la eólica podría abastecer 60% de hogares europeos, según asociación

París, 16 mar (EFE).- En el año 2020 la energía eólica generada en Europa podría abastecer al equivalente del 60% de los hogares europeos, según el objetivo marcado hoy por la Asociación Europea de Energía Eólica (EWEA).

Esa cantidad correspondería a una capacidad instalada de energía de procedencia eólica de 230 gigawatios, que es la meta marcada por la EWEA, según anunciaron sus responsables en una conferencia que hoy comenzó en Marsella (sur).

Arthouros Zervos, presidente de esta asociación, dijo que de este modo se incrementan las perspectivas de aprovechamiento de esta energía renovable, apoyadas por los objetivos marcados en la directiva comunitaria de Energías Renovables, sobre la que la Unión Europea alcanzó un acuerdo en 2008.

Los 230 gigawatios son un incremento con relación a los 180 que la propia asociación había marcado como objetivo anteriormente, explicó Zervos quien, sin embargo, precisó que sólo se alcanzará esa meta si todos los Estados comunitarios cumplen con los plazos previstos.

La energía generada por esos 230 gigawatios sería suficiente para abastecer el equivalente a 135 millones de hogares de tipo medio en la UE y así se suministraría entre el 14 y el 18 por ciento de la demanda eléctrica en 2020, agregó Zervos.

El comisario europeo de Energía, Andris Pielbags, afirmó en la misma conferencia que "la energía eólica puede sustituir en gran medida a los combustibles contaminantes y finitos de los que actualmente dependemos", según un comunicado de los organizadores de la reunión.

Según datos de la Comisión Europea, el 3,5% de las reservas probadas de carbón están en la UE, pero los países de la Unión sólo tienen el 2% de las de gas, menos del 2% de las de uranio y por debajo del 1% de las de petróleo de todo el mundo.

"Con el tiempo Europa perderá la batalla", dijo el comisario, quien recordó que las empresas europeas tienen dos terceras partes del mercado mundial de la tecnología de la energía eólica, valorado en un total de 35.000 millones de euros.

La reunión de Marsella, que se prolongará hasta el próximo jueves, abordará otros temas relacionados con la energía eólica, como asuntos políticos, técnicos y científicos. EFE jam/cbm

Le journal development durable: Salon EWEC : Marseille, capitale de l'éolien !

Selon l'association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (EWEA), la puissance installée dans l'UE devrait atteindre 180 GW en 2020. © Johannes Braun/Naja

Du 16 au 19 mars, quelque 6000 participants, parmi lesquels les principaux acteurs politiques, économiques et scientifiques de l'éolien ont rendez-vous à Marseille pour la conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne 2009 (EWEC). Après une année 2008 difficile, le secteur compte sur le paquet législatif « Énergie-climat » pour relancer le marché.

La conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne 2009 (EWEC) s'est ouverte le 16 mars à Marseille dans un contexte de légère baisse (-1,8 %) du marché européen de l'éolien en 2008. Durant quatre jours, les principaux acteurs politiques, économiques et scientifiques du secteur animeront 45 conférences. Parallèlement, pas moins de 390 exposants parmi lesquels les grands industriels de l'éolien, présentent leurs activités sur un espace de plus de 9000 m². En plus des conférences, quelque 500 exposés et communications affichées ainsi qu'une quarantaine de sessions, ateliers et évènements parallèles seront proposés. Au total, pas moins de 6000 visiteurs sont attendus jusqu'au 19 mars. Le commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie Andris Piebalgs, attend de l'EWEC qu'elle soit « une vitrine des meilleures technologies européennes en matière d'énergies renouvelables, ainsi qu'une tribune où les plus grands esprits européens pourront soulever les questions cruciales liées au défi énergétique ».

Le paquet Énergie-climat, un « nouveau souffle »

Alors que l'UE, n°1 mondial de l'éolien avec 65 GW installés (55 % de la puissance globale installée) entend assurer 20 % de son approvisionnement en électricité grâce au renouvelable d'ici à 2020, la crise est dans tous les esprits. Mais malgré une quasistagnation du marché européen en 2008, le secteur veut croire en la relance, comptant notamment sur l'adoption prochaine du paquet européen « Énergie-climat ». « Avant le mois de mars de l'année prochaine, l'UE aura adopté son ambitieux paquet législatif « Énergie-climat », et donnera par conséquent un nouveau souffle au développement de l'énergie

renouvelable » a déclaré Andris Piebalgs. Ainsi, selon l'association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (EWEA), la puissance installée dans l'UE devrait atteindre 180 GW en 2020. La France, quatrième producteur européen avec 3 400 MW d'éolien envisage quant à elle d'investir quelque 30 milliards d'euros sur douze ans pour atteindre 20 000 MW éoliens terrestres et 5 000 MW éoliens offshore.

Terra: ENERGIA – CONFERENCIA En 2020 la eólica podría abastecer 60% de hogares europeos, según asociación

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Según datos de la Comisión Europea, el 3,5% de las reservas probadas de carbón están en la UE, pero los países de la Unión sólo tienen el 2% de las de gas, menos del 2% de las de uranio y por debajo del 1% de las de petróleo de todo el mundo.

"Con el tiempo Europa perderá la batalla", dijo el comisario, quien recordó que las empresas europeas tienen dos terceras partes del mercado mundial de la tecnología de la energía eólica, valorado en un total de 35.000 millones de euros.

La reunión de Marsella, que se prolongará hasta el próximo jueves, abordará otros temas relacionados con la energía eólica, como asuntos políticos, técnicos y científicos. EFECOM jam/jmj

Diario Digital: Eólica poderá abastecer 60% dos lares europeus em 2020

Em 2020, a energia eólica gerada na Europa poderá abastecer o equivalente a 60 por cento dos lares europeus, sustenta hoje a Associação Europeia da Energia Eólica (EWEA).

Essa quantidade corresponderia a uma capacidade instalada de energia de procedência eólica de 230 gigawatts, que é a meta apontada pela EWEA, segundo anunciaram os seus responsáveis numa conferência que hoje começou em Marselha.

Arthouros Zervos, presidente desta Associação, defendeu as perspectivas em crescendo do aproveitamento desta energia renovável, apoiadas pelos objectivos assinalados na directiva comunitária de Energias Renováveis, na sequência do acordo alcançado em 2008.

Os 230 gigawatts são um aumento em relação aos 180 que a própria associação tinha apostado como objectivo anteriormente, explicou Zervos, precisando, no entanto, que só se alcancrá essa meta se todos os Estados comunitários cumprirem com os prazos previstos.

A energia gerada por esses 230 gigawatts seria suficiente para abastecer o equivalente a 135 milhões de lares de tipo médio na UE e assim se forneceria entre 14 a 18 por cento da procura eléctrica em 2020, acrescentou Zervos.

Terra: ENERGIA - CONFERENCIA

La eólica se salva de la crisis bancaria con nuevas fuentes de financiación

París, 17 mar (EFECOM).- Los proyectos eólicos están más protegidos de la crisis bancaria gracias a una diversificación de sus fuentes de financiación, con un mayor peso de los inversores institucionales y de las compañías eléctricas, según la Asociación Europea de la Energía Eólica (EWEA).

Pero pese a que el sector espera ser de los primeros que consiga salir del actual periodo de turbulencias económicas, la EWEA pidió a los gobiernos europeos y al Banco Europeo de Inversiones (BEI) que establezcan rápidamente garantías a los préstamos para aliviar la situación generada por la crisis de liquidez bancaria, en un comunicado divulgado hoy.

"Los gobiernos de la UE deberían inspirarse del plan de recuperación estadounidense que prevé garantías de créditos de hasta varios miles de millones de dólares para proyectos

vinculados con las energías renovables", destacó el presidente de la EWEA, Christian Kjaer, que participa en Marsella (sureste de Francia) en una conferencia sobre la energía eólica.

En esa misma línea, el parlamentario europeo Claude Turmes, ponente para la directiva sobre las energías renovables, consideró que la propuesta de la Comisión Europea de dedicar 5.000 millones de euros para el sector es insuficiente.

"Los jefes de Estado deben también hacer frente a las dificultades a las que se enfrentan los sectores económicos más dinámicos, como el eólico, para acceder a la financiación necesaria para sus inversiones", argumentó Turmes.

El eurodiputado se pronunció en favor de la propuesta de la Eurocámara para que una parte del monto de los planes de recuperación económica se destinen a garantizar préstamos del BEI y de otros bancos para proyectos de energías renovables con fondos del presupuesto de la UE.

Kjaer se quejó de que de los 90.000 millones de euros de los planes de reactivación económica de la Unión sólo un 1,2% se dedican a "inversiones verdes".

Según un estudio del gabinete de estudios NEF (New Energy Finance) presentado en la conferencia de Marsella, que se celebra desde ayer y hasta el jueves, entre un 10% y 15% de los proyectos de la industria eólica en Europa este año se verán afectados por la crisis financiera.

Pese a los problemas a corto plazo, ese mismo informe muestra que un 75% de los inversores institucionales declaran que probablemente invertirán más en la industria eólica de aquí a 2012.

Para Kjaer, las inversiones en la energía eólica son más seguras desde el punto de vista económico que cualquier otra inversión energética porque no están sometidas a las fluctuaciones de los precios del petróleo y del carbón.

De acuerdo con los datos de la EWEA, un 49% de los inversores institucionales se muestran ahora más dispuestos a invertir en energías limpias que hace un año, mientras que sólo un 5% afirma ser menos proclives a hacerlo.

La asociación ha revisado al alza sus previsiones de capacidades eólicas instaladas en Europa en el horizonte de 2020, al elevarlas de 180 gigavatios anteriormente a 230 gigavatios ahora.

Esas capacidades permitirían producir 600 teravatios hora, equivalentes a entre el 14 y el 18% de la demanda eléctrica. EFECOM ac/jam/vnz

Newstin: ENERGIA - CONFERENCIA

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"Los gobiernos de la UE deberían inspirarse del plan de recuperación estadounidense que prevé garantías de créditos de hasta varios miles de millones de dólares para proyectos vinculados con las energías renovables", destacó el presidente de la EWEA, Christian Kjaer, que participa en Marsella (sureste de Francia) en una conferencia sobre la energía eólica.

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Esas capacidades permitirían producir 600 teravatios hora, equivalentes a entre el 14 y el 18% de la demanda eléctrica. EFECOM ac/jam/vnz

Zeroemissioni: Dal vento energia per 135 milioni di famiglie nel 2020"

17 marzo 2009 - Da Copenaghen i riflettori si spostano su Marsiglia. Se infatti la settimana scorsa oltre 2mila scienziati da tutto il mondo si sono incontrati al congresso scientifico "Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions" per fare il punto sullo stato del global warming, in vista del tanto atteso vertice mondiale di dicembre sempre nella capitale danese sulle strategie da adottare dopo la scadenza nel 2012 del Protocollo di Kyoto, da ieri invece nella città francese che si affaccia sul Mediterraneo è partita l'European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) 2009, l'importante appuntamento annuale sull'energia che organizza l'European Wind Energy Association (Ewea).

Si passa, dunque, dagli scenari apocalittici delineati dalla comunità scientifica alle azioni da intraprendere in concreto con modalità e tempistiche certe, a partire dagli ostacoli ancora da rimuovere per sfruttare a pieno le opportunità offerte da una fonte come l'eolico a cui è affidato un ruolo "chiave" nella battaglia climatica.

Gli oltre 4.100 partecipanti e i 390 espositori (tra cui anche la nostra Eolica Expo), coinvolti nel ricco panorama di eventi, conferenze e seminari politici, tecnici, di mercato, che si svolgeranno fino a giovedì prossimo, sono dunque chiamati a interrogarsi sulle nuove sfide che attendono l'energia del vento, una fonte – come ha sottolineato di recente l'Ewea in un rapporto – che nel 2008 ha superato tutte le altre fonti per capacità installata.

Partendo da questi dati nel suo intervento di apertura ieri il Commissario Ue all'Energia, Andris Piebalgs, ha sottolineato che "l'energia del vento può contribuire in gran parte a liberare l'Europa dalle fonti inquinanti su cui oggi dobbiamo fare affidamento".

Si tratta infatti di una fonte "indigena", ha detto Piebalgs, di cui l'Europa dispone in abbondanza e che non deve importare come le altre fonti fossili dal momento che il Vecchio Continente dispone solo del 3,5 per cento del carbone mondiale, del 2 per cento di gas naturale, meno del 2 per cento di uranio e meno dell'1 per cento di petrolio.

In questa ottica va dunque letto il contributo che può dare all'indipendenza energetica europea l'energia del vento, una fonte che ha raggiunto l'anno scorso oltre 120 GW di capacità installata in tutto il mondo, di cui 66 GW solo in Europa, con una crescita nel 2008 del 36 per cento rispetto all'anno precedente e che è destinata a crescere a ritmi ancora più vertiginosi di quelli previsti.

Le performance recenti e la spinta ulteriore che l'eolico riceverà dall'applicazione del pacchetto "clima ed energia" in tema di rinnovabili hanno infatti indotto l'Ewea a rivedere al rialzo le stime di crescita future. Il presidente dell'associazione Arthouros Zervos ha dichiarato ieri che ormai troppo riduttivo parlare di 180 GW (di cui 35 GW offshore) al 2020, come stimato in precedenza.

Ed ha annunciato che è molto più probabile che per quella data l'Europa disporrà di ben 230 GW eolici, di cui 40 installati in mare, in grado di fornire tutti insieme circa 600 TWh. Tradotto: energia pulita per 135 milioni di famiglie pari al 14-18 per cento del fabbosgno di elettricità europeo. Ma anche, secondo le stime di un recente rapporto dell'Ewea "Wind at Work", lavoro per oltre 325mila persone.

Energy Digger: Wind energy sector buoyant despite downturn

Tuesday, 17 March 2009 09:48:45 CDT

AP - Wind Energy

With a smaller dependence on bank loans than other industries, the wind energy sector believes it will be among the first to emerge from the recession, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) said at the opening of its annual conference yesterday (16 March).

Medianet: Die Welt braucht eine Energierevolution!

Der internationalen Energieagentur IEA zufolge werden 2030 9% des weltweiten Elektrizitätsverbrauchs von der Windkraft gedeckt. Österreichs Windkraftzulieferer profitieren von diesem Trend und knacken erstmals die 300 Millionen-Euro-Exportmarke

Marseille. "Wir brauchen eine Energierevolution!" Dies forderte Nobuo Tanaka, Generalsekretär der Internationalen Energieagentur IEA, im Rahmen der Eröffnung der diese Woche stattfindenden Europäischen Windenergie-Konferenz EREC in Marseille. 9% des weltweiten Elektrizitätsverbrauchs werde 2030 von der Windkraft gedeckt werden, so Tanaka. 6000 Teilnehmer arbeiten auf der EWEC daran, dies Wirklichkeit werden zu lassen. EU-Energiekommissar Andris Piebalgs mahnt zu umgehendem Handeln: "Wir müssen jetzt handeln. Zu spätes Handeln ist teurer als rechtzeitiges Handeln. Die Stimmen, die behaupten, Windenergie spiele nur am Rande eine Rolle, werden immer mehr an den Rand gedrängt werden."

Gerade in Zeiten der Wirtschaftskrise werden erneuerbare Energien und insbesondere die Windenergie von Experten als gesunde, solide Sektoren und als Zukunftsmarkt gesehen. "Derzeit herrscht beinahe überall Pessimismus. Im Energiesektor, vor allem im Sektor der erneuerbaren Energien, sehe ich jedoch Optimismus", konstatiert Tanaka. Nur Optimismus allein reiche aber nicht aus - vielmehr sei es seiner Meinung nach jetzt an der Zeit Investitionspakete am Energiesektor zu lancieren: "Wir müssen jetzt in nachhaltige Energien investieren. Wir brauchen einen cleen energy new deal."

EWEA gibt sich noch optimistischer

Der Präsident der European Wind Energy Association EWEA, Arthouros Zervos, stimmt grundsätzlich mit Tanaka überein. Er glaubt jedoch an noch bessere Chancen für die Windenergie: "Bei unseren Zukunftsprognosen haben wir uns bemüht, sehr konservative Ansätze zu verwenden. Dennoch lagen unsere Prognosen immer deutlich über denen der IEA. In der Realität wurden aber selbst unsere Prognosen bei weitem übertroffen. Aufgrund der aktuellen Entwicklungen am Energiemarkt müssen wir unsere zwei Jahre alte Prognose für 2020 von 180.000 Megawatt um 28 Prozent auf 230.000 Megawatt anheben". Wind werde dann 600 Mrd. kWh liefern, was einem Stromerzeugungsanteil von 14-18% entspreche.

Heimische Windekraftzulieferer legen zu

"Der Windkraftboom hält an, die langfristigen Ausbauprognosen werden nach wie vor angehoben", ist Stefan Hantsch, Geschäftsführer der IG Windkraft Österreich, mit der bisherigen Entwicklung zufrieden. "Das ist auch gut für die österreichische Windenergie-Exportbranche. Sie hat heuer erstmals die 300 Millionen-Euro-Marke überschritten. Ein Plus von 20 Prozent gegenüber dem Vorjahr", so Hantsch. Die heimischen Windkraftzulieferer exportieren Steuerungen, Flügelmaterial, Generatoren, Energieumrichtersysteme oder komplette Windkraftanlagenkonzepte. Im Dienstleistungsbereich werden mit österreichischem Know-how Windparks in den umliegenden Ländern geplant, finanziert und umgesetzt, erklärt Hantsch weiter.

Derzeit liefert die Windkraft vier Prozent des europäischen Stromverbrauchs. 65.000 MW Windkraft sind in Europa am Netz. Letztes Jahr wurden 8.484 MW an neuer Windkraftleistung errichtet, das ist um ein Viertel mehr Leistung, als Gaskraftwerke, die Platz zwei belegten. Windkraft ist laut IEA Spitzenreiter beim Kraftwerksausbau in Europa. 160.000 Jobs wurden durch die Windkraft in Europa geschaffen, 11 Mrd. € wurden im Vorjahr in der Branche investiert, heißt es weiter. (red)

Oekonews: Österreichische Windindustrie überschreitet 300 Mio. Exportmarke

18.3.2009

6.000 Delegierte auf Europäischer Windenergie-Konferenz EWEC

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Auch in Zeiten der Wirtschaftskrise werden Erneuerbare Energien und insbesondere die Windenergie als gesunde, solide Sektoren und als Zukunftsmarkt gesehen. "Derzeit herrscht beinahe überall Pessimismus. Im Energiesektor, vor allem im Sektor der erneuerbaren Energien, sehe ich jedoch Optimismus", konstatiert Nobuo Tanaka. Der IEA-Chef erwartet, dass 2030 9% des weltweiten Elektrizitätsverbrauchs von der Windkraft gedeckt werden und fordert angesichts zahlreicher weltweiter Investitionspakete: "Wir müssen jetzt in nachhaltige Energien investieren. Wir brauchen einen cleen energy new deal."

EWEA steigert Prognose um 28%: 2020 machen 230.000 Megawatt 14-18% des EU-Stroms

Der Präsident der European Wind Energy Association EWEA, Arthouros Zervos, stimmt mit Tanaka überein. Er glaubt jedoch an noch bessere Chancen für die Windenergie: "Bei unseren Zukunftsprognosen haben wir uns bemüht, sehr konservative Ansätze zu verwenden. Dennoch lagen unsere Prognosen immer deutlich über denen der IEA. In der Realität wurden aber selbst unsere Prognosen bei weitem übertroffen. Aufgrund der aktuellen Entwicklungen am Energiemarkt müssen wir unsere zwei Jahre alte Prognose für 2020 von 180.000 Megawatt um 28% auf 230.000 Megawatt anheben. Wind wird dann 600 Mrd. kWh liefern, was einem Stromerzeugungsanteil von 14-18% entspricht."

Österreichs Windexportbranche überschreitet 300 Mio. Euro Marke

"Der Windkraftboom hält an, die langfristigen Ausbauprognosen werden nach wie vor angehoben", freut sich Mag. Stefan Hantsch, Geschäftsführer der IG Windkraft Österreich. "Das ist auch gut für die österreichische Windenergie-Exportbranche. Sie hat heuer erstmals die 300 Mio. Euro Marke überschritten. Ein Plus von 20% gegenüber dem Vorjahr", so Hantsch. Die heimischen Windkraftzulieferer exportieren Steuerungen, Flügelmaterial, Generatoren, Energieumrichtersysteme oder komplette Windkraftanlagenkonzepte. Im Dienstleistungsbereich werden mit österreichischem Know-how Windparks in den umliegenden Ländern geplant, finanziert und umgesetzt.

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Im Gegensatz zum weltweiten Trend ist Österreich 2008 auf Platz 19 in Europa zurückgefallen und befindet sich gemeinsam mit Malta, Slowakei, Slowenien, Rumänien, Luxenburg, Lettland und Zypern in der Gruppe jener Länder, die weniger als 20 Megawatt neu errichteten.

Velino: I player dell'eolico chiedono più credito dalle banche

--IL VELINO AMBIENTE ED ENERGIA--

Roma, 17 mar (Velino) - Una spinta economica, attraverso il credito bancario, per superare la crisi finanziaria. È quella che hanno chiesto i maggiori player dell'eolico europeo riuniti a Marsiglia per una tre giorni in occasione della Conferenza sull'energia prodotta dal vento (Ewec). Secondo Claude Turmes, membro della commissione Industria del Parlamento europeo, citato da Le Figaro, "l'accordo siglato nel dicembre 2008 tra i capi di Stato dell'Unione europea, che richiede ai 27 di coprire una parte del proprio fabbisogno energetico utilizzando rinnovabili, è una garanzia fondamentale per il settore". Nelle prossime settimane, la Commissione esaminerà nuovamente i piani di rilancio delle energie rinnovabili: "Su un totale di 90 miliardi di euro previsti dai piani di rilancio dell'economia dei paesi europei, solo l'1,2 per cento riguarda gli investimenti 'verdi'", ha spiegato Christian Kjaer, presidente dell'Associazione europea dell'energia eolica (Ewea) così come riportato dal quotidiano francese, indignato anche con l'atteggiamento della Bei che a suo dire, ha erogato fondi per 8-10 miliardi di euro a favore dell'industria dell'auto e meno di un miliardo alle rinnovabili. Nonostante Kjaer ritenga che il settore non risentirà di un calo della

domanda, ha tuttavia invitato i governi europei a seguire un piano analogo a quello degli Stati Uniti che prevede garanzie sui prestiti per progetti di energia rinnovabile.

Batipole: EWC 2009 - Un évènement majeur à point nommé Conférence et exposition européennes sur l'énergie éolienne 2009

16-19 mars Marseille France

La Conférence européenne sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) 2009 vient à point nommé. Organisée par l'Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (European Wind Energy Association - EWEA), et dédiée à la Directive historique sur les énergies renouvelables adoptée en décembre 2008 par l'Union Européenne, cette conférence s'annonce comme la première grande plateforme de discussion entre les principaux acteurs du secteur. Il s'agira là aussi du premier événement d'importance de l'industrie depuis le début de la crise financière mondiale. Du 16 au 19 mars, les acteurs du secteur de l'éolien ainsi que plusieurs décideurs politiques se retrouveront à Marseille pour débattre des questions liées au nouveau contexte énergétique et économique.

La journée d'ouverture du 16 mars sera marquée par deux grands événements presse :

A 12h30 , une conférence de presse réunira les personnalités confirmées pour la séance d'ouverture: Andris Piebalgs, Commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie Waldemar Pawlak, Vice-Premier Ministre, Ministre de l'Économie, Pologne Mechtild Rothe, Vice-Présidente du Parlement européen Nobuo Tanaka, Directeur exécutif de l'Agence Internationale de l'Énergie Arthouros Zervos, Président, EWEA

A 15h30, un point presse sera consacré à l'énergie éolienne dans le contexte actuel de la crise financière. Les orateurs seront les suivants :

Christian Kjaer, CEO, Association européenne de l'énergie éolienne (EWEA) Michael Liebreich, Président & CEO, New Energy Finance

Les orateurs de la session intitulée : "Opportunités et défis du nouvel environnement financier" qui suivra le point presse seront également présents afin de répondre à vos questions. Il s'agit de : Paul Dowling, CEO, Airtricity, Irlande Matthias Kollatz-Ahnen, Vice-Président, Banque Européenne d'Investissement (BEI) Nikolai Ulrich, Responsable européen Renouvelables, HSH Nordbank, Allemagne Michael Lewis, Directeur général Europe , E.ON Climate & Renewables, Allemagne Tom Murley, Responsable Energie Renouvelable, HgCapital, Royaume Uni

Plusieurs milliers de personnes venus des 4 coins du globe sont attendues à l'EWEC 2009. Au total, plus de 40 sessions, ateliers et évènements parallèles seront organisés en marge

de cette conférence qui durera quatre jours. Plus de 500 exposés et communications affichées seront également proposés. Pour accueillir tous les participants attendus, un espace de plus de 9.000 m² (soit le double de l'édition précédente) sera aménagé pour l'événement, ce qui constitue la surface la plus importante jamais consacrée à l'EWEC.

L'accès à l'EWEC 2009 sera libre pour tous les représentants de la presse et les journalistes. Veuillez cliquer sur http://www.ewec2009.info/index.php?id=109 pour vous enregistrer comme membre de la presse. Une salle de presse entièrement équipée sera à votre disposition. Vous y trouverez toutes les informations utiles ainsi qu'un calendrier de presse qui vous permettra de suivre les événements presse des jours 2, 3 et 4.

Pour toute information complémentaire, veuillez contacter communication@ewea.org - Tel:

+32 (0)474 542025 Note pour les éditeurs :

• EWEA est la voix de l'industrie éolienne. Elle promeut activement l'utilisation de l'énergie éolienne en Europe et dans le monde. Elle compte plus de 550 membres issus de 50 pays, notamment des fabricants d'éoliennes représentant plus de 90% du marché éolien mondial, ainsi que des fabricants de composants, des instituts de recherche, des associations nationales de l'éolien et des énergies renouvelables, des développeurs, des entrepreneurs, des fournisseurs d'électricité, des sociétés de financement, des compagnies d'assurance et des consultants. Toutes ces resources font d'EWEA le réseau le plus étendu et le plus puissant au monde consacré à l'éolien.

Generation nouvelles technologies: L'énergie éolienne offre à l'Europe un avantage compétitif selon le Commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie

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MARSEILLE, France, March 17 / PRNewswire / -- L'énergie éolienne peut remplacer une grande partie des carburants polluants disponibles en quantités finies et dont nous dépendons aujourd'hui , a expliqué ce matin Andris Piebalgs, Commissaire ...

MARSEILLE, France, March 17 /PRNewswire/ -- L'énergie éolienne peut remplacer une grande partie des carburants polluants disponibles en quantités finies et dont nous dépendons aujourd'hui , a expliqué ce matin Andris Piebalgs, Commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie, lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence et exposition européennes sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) organisée par EWEA (European Wind Energy Association). Il est tout à fait approprié d'investir dans des sources d'énergie locales qui prémunissent contre les fluctuations des cours des carburants fossiles et dans lesquelles l'Europe a un réel avantage compétitif .

D'après la Commission européenne, l'UE détient 3,5 % des réserves de charbon au niveau mondial. Son sous-sol renferme moins de 2 % des réserves de gaz mondial, moins de 2 % de l'uranium mondial et moins d'un pour cent du pétrole mondial. La lutte pour le contrôle des ressources de carburants dont les réserves s'épuisent rapidement gagne déjà en intensité , a souligné Arthouros Zervos, Président d'EWEA, lors de la séance d'ouverture. Elle ne pourra que s'intensifier avec le temps et l'Europe perdra cette bataille. Les entreprises européennes détiennent les deux tiers du marché mondial des technologies de l'énergie éolienne qui s'élève à 35 milliards d'euros. L'énergie éolienne est la contribution de l'Europe à la paix, au progrès et à la prospérité et il est urgent pour nous de la développer, de la promouvoir et de l'exporter du mieux que nous le pouvons .

La contribution de l'énergie éolienne à la prospérité est analysée en détail dans un nouveau rapport publié aujourd'hui par EWEA et présenté aux participants par Arthouros Zervos. Ce document intitulé The Economics of Wind Energy offre un panorama complet de l'économie de l'énergie éolienne et compare les coûts du vent à ceux d'autres technologies génératrices d'électricité.

Arthouros Zervos a également annoncé que EWEA a révisé à la hausse son objectif pour 2020 en termes de capacité éolienne installée dans l'UE, en la portant de 180 à 230 GW, dont 40 GW pour l'éolien offshore. L'accord concernant la Directive sur les énergies renouvelables signé en décembre 2008 et les objectifs que les États membres doivent atteindre d'ici 2020 en matière d'approvisionnement énergétique durable nous ont rendus plus optimistes pour l'avenir du secteur. Nous avons dès lors augmenté nos objectifs. Toutefois, ils ne seront atteints que si tous les États membres mettent en oeuvre cette directive efficacement et dans les plus brefs délais , explique-t-il.

EWEA avait initialement fixé un objectif de 180 GW de capacité installée dans l'UE à l'horizon 2020, dont 35 GW en offshore. Le nouvel objectif de 230 GW devrait permettre de produire près de 600 TWh par an dans l'UE d'ici 2020, soit une puissance équivalant aux besoins de 135 millions de foyers européens de taille moyenne (60 % des foyers européens) et qui couvrirait de 14 à 18 % de la demande d'électricité de l'UE (selon la demande totale en 2020).

Mechtild Rothe, vice-présidente du Parlement européen a affirmé que l'énergie éolienne peut avoir des retombées considérables sur l'emploi et l'économie. L'énergie éolienne est un excellent exemple qui montre comment investir intelligemment dans une économie durable tournée vers l'avenir en permettant à des milliers de personnes de trouver un emploi , a-t-elle déclaré. Et notamment en ces temps d'incertitude, il est très important que le secteur de l'énergie éolienne en Europe ait créé plus de 60 000 nouveaux emplois au cours des cinq dernières années. Il ne s'agit pas que de simples chiffres. Il s'agit de la force compétitive de l'Europe ! L'énergie éolienne est incontestablement devenue une force motrice de nos économies. La crise actuelle nous a enseigné qu'il ne faut plus attendre mais agir avant que les problèmes ne se présentent. C'est maintenant qu'il faut investir dans l'énergie éolienne .

Nobuo Tanaka, directeur exécutif de l'Agence Internationale de l'Énergie (IEA) a souligné lors de sa présentation les bénéfices de l'énergie éolienne pour l'environnement en déclarant qu'elle a un rôle important à jouer dans l'atténuation des changements climatiques mais que pour exploiter tout le potentiel du vent nous avons besoin de politiques nationales efficaces et d'un cadre international solide. Nous devons renforcer, étendre et interconnecter nos réseaux de transmission. Nous devons également renforcer les efforts entrepris dans la recherche et le développement dans les technologies de l'énergie éolienne . Nabuo Tanaka a également souligné qu'il faut absolument baser les plans de relance économique sur des investissements verts pour donner un stimulus à court terme et obtenir des bénéfices à long terme.

Selon Roland Sundén, PDG de LM Glasfiber et Président de l'EWEC 2009, en 2008, la capacité éolienne installée en UE dépasse toutes les autres technologies génératrices d'électricité. Les résultats enregistrés par le secteur éolien sont la preuve la plus tangible que le vent est créateur d'une valeur appréciable. Alors que la crise financière et économique s'aggrave, cela devient particulièrement pertinent, et cette pertinence ouvre une fenêtre d'opportunités historique à tous ceux qui sont engagés à lutter contre les changements climatiques, à soutenir le leadership technologique et à créer de nouvelles exportations compétitives et des emplois .

André Antolini, président du Syndicat des énergies renouvelables (SER) a cité la France comme exemple spécifique de ce que le vent peut apporter à l'économie. Il a souligné que en France, plus de 130 sociétés fabriquent maintenant des composantes ou offrent des services au secteur de l'énergie éolienne. Le vent est bénéfique à l'industrie et à l'économie . Marcin Korolec, Secrétaire d'Etat au ministère de l'économie en Pologne a tout à fait approuvé ces paroles. Il a ajouté que Le développement de l'énergie éolienne stimule toute l'économie, particulièrement en temps de crise .

Jean-Louis Bal, en charge de la Direction des énergies renouvelables de l'ADEME, a souligné les conséquences importantes que les objectifs fixés pour 2020 auront sur notre avenir. Les objectifs 20-20-20 à atteindre d'ici 2020 représentent un investissement important, mais également un investissement dont les avantages à moyen et long termes dépasseront les coûts, a-t-il déclaré.

Pour matérialiser graphiquement les avantages de l'énergie éolienne, Roland Sundén a déclenché un compteur d'énergie éolienne qui restera actif jusqu'à la clôture de l'EWEC. Il indiquera la quantité d'électricité produite en Europe à partir du vent, le nombre d'investissements effectués, ainsi que le nombre d'emplois créés et de turbines installées pendant ces quatre jours.

L'EWEC se tient à Marseille jusqu'au jeudi 19 mars. D'autres séances aborderont des questions politiques, techniques, scientifiques et de réseaux liées à l'énergie éolienne. Des séquences vidéo couvrant les temps forts de l'EWEC seront consultables en qualité "broadcast" sur http://www.thenewsmarket.com à partir du mardi 17 mars.

Pour télécharger le rapport The Economics of Wind Energy , veuillez cliquer sur http://www.ewea.org/index.php?id=11. Pour plus d'informations sur l'EWEC, consultez le site http://www.ewec2009.info.

Energy Current: EU: Wind can replace 'polluting and finite' fuels

3/17/2009 2:34:46 PM GMT

MARSEILLE, FRANCE: "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," claimed European Union (EU) Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) today.

Piebalgs said, "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage."

According to the European Commission, 3.5 percent of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. The region sits on less than two percent of the world's gas; less than two percent of its uranium, and has under one percent of the world's oil.

"The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasized Arthouros Zervos, European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) president, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the EUR35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

Wind energy's contribution to prosperity is analyzed in detail in a new EWEA report launched today, which Zervos presented to delegates. "The Economics of Wind Energy" provides a detailed insight into wind energy economics and compares the costs of wind to those of other power-generating technologies.

Zervos also announced that EWEA has increased its 2020 target for installed wind energy capacity in the EU from 180 GW to 230 GW, including 40 GW offshore. He explained that "the agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook. We have therefore increased our targets. However, these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the directive swiftly and effectively."

Previously, EWEA's target was set at 180 GW of installed capacity in the EU by 2020, including 35 GW offshore. The new 230 GW target would produce approximately 600 TWh per year in the EU by 2020, power equivalent to the needs of 135 million average EU households (60 percent of EU households) and meeting between 14 percent and 18 percent of EU electricity demand (depending on total demand in 2020).

Mechtild Rothe, vice president of the European Parliament, said that wind energy can make a real difference to employment and economies. "Wind energy is an excellent example of how to intelligently invest in a future-orientated sustainable economy getting thousands of people into jobs," she said. "Especially in these times of uncertainty it is very important that the European wind energy industry has created more than 60,000 new jobs over the past five years. These are not mere statistics, this is the competitive strength of Europe. Wind energy has definitely become a driving force of our economies. We have learned from the current crisis that we should not wait until the problems are there before we act. We need to invest in wind energy now."

Nobuo Tanaka, executive director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), focused on the environmental benefits of wind energy in his presentation, saying that it "has an important role to play in climate change mitigation" but to tap into wind's full potential "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework. We need to reinforce, expand and link up our transmission networks. We must also increase research and development efforts in wind energy technology." Tanaka went on to stress the importance of focusing economic recovery plans on green investments for a short-term stimulus and long-term benefits.

Roland Sunden, CEO of LM Glasfiber and chair of EWEC 2009, said, "In 2008, more wind was installed in the EU than any other power generating technology. The track record of wind is the most visible proof that it creates great value. And as the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant, and that relevance creates a historic window of

opportunity for everybody who is committed to combating climate change, to supporting technological leadership and to creating new competitive exports and jobs."

Andre Antolini, president of the French Renewable Energy Association (SER), cited France as a specific example of the difference wind can make to the economy. He said, "In France there are now over 130 companies that produce components for, or offer services to, the wind energy sector. Wind energy helps industry and the economy."

Marcin Korolec, secretary of state for the Ministry of the Economy in Poland, agreed. "The development of wind energy stimulates the whole economy, particularly at times of crisis", he said.

Jean-Louis Bal, renewable energy director at ADEME, reinforced the important effects meeting the 2020 targets will have on Europe's future, saying, "The 20-20-20 by 2020 objectives represent an important investment, but also an investment whose medium and long term benefits are far higher than the costs."

To give a visual display of the benefits of wind energy, Roland Sunden switched on a 'wind energy counter', which will run until the close of EWEC. The counter will show how much electricity wind has provided in Europe, how many investments have been made and jobs created in the sector, and the number of turbines built during the four days.

EWEC is taking place in Marseille and will run until Thursday. Other sessions will cover political, grid, technical and scientific issues related to wind energy. Broadcast-standard videos highlighting the main activities at EWEC will be made available on http://www.thenewsmarket.com/ beginning today.

Transmission and Distrubution World: Wind Energy Gives Europe a Competitive Advantage, Says EU Energy Commissioner

Mar 18, 2009 9:56 AM EWEA Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on according to Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC).

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According to the European Commission, 3.5% of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. It sits on less than 2% of the world's gas; less than 2% of its uranium and it has under 1% of the world's oil.

"The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's president, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two-thirds of the EUR35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

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Zeroemissioni: Boom eolico? "Il 2009 non farà eccezione"

18 marzo 2009 – La crescita impetuosa delle installazioni eoliche nel 2008 ha indotto le principali associazioni che rappresentano l'industria del settore a rivedere al rialzo le proiezioni sullo sviluppo dell'energia dal vento elaborate in precedenza.

Una tendenza che accomuna l'Associazione europea dell'energia del vento (Ewea), che ha presentato ieri le sue nuove stime per l'Europa all'Ewec in corso a Marsiglia, e il Global Wind Energy Council che di fronte alla stessa platea ha presentato le sue nuove proiezioni, che

addirittura vedono triplicata la capacità installata globale entro il 2013, da 120 GW di fine 2008 a 332 GW.

Il Gwec ha infatti illustrato ieri a Marsiglia il suo nuovo rapporto Global Wind 2008 Report, secondo il quale la capacità installata nel corso del 2013 sarà il doppio di quella installata nel 2008, pari cioè a 56,3 GW. Il tasso di crescita annuale previsto nei prossimi cinque anni è del 22 per cento - leggermente in flessione rispetto allo strabiliante 28 per cento degli ultimi dieci anni – e nonostante la crisi finanziaria, anche il 2009 non farà eccezione.

"La forte politica di sostegno – ha infatti spiegato Steve Sawyer, segretario generale del Gwec - continuerà a guidare la crescita dell'energia del vento nei tre principali mercati: Cina, Europa e Stati Uniti. I governi stanno trasformando la crisi economica in una straordinaria opportunità di sviluppo ponendo l'eolico al centro dei loro programmi di stimoli all'economia". Il che tradotto significa "molte migliaia di lavori, sicurezza energetica e mitigazione della crisi climatica".

Nel 2009 gli Stati Uniti, frenati dalla stretta creditizia, cederanno alla Cina il ruolo di locomotiva del settore. Questa situazione – ha spiegato il Gwec – porterà la Repubblica popolare a diventare leader per nuove installazioni entro fine anno, mentre la capacità totale installata in Asia raggiungerà i 117 GW nel 2013, da 24 GW dell'anno scorso .

Il Nord America crescerà meno degli anni passati aggiungendo 55 GW all'attuale capacità e raggiungendo in totale 82 GW. L'Europa continuerà invece a essere leader per capacità totale installata portandola a 118 GW nel 2013.

"I 332 GW produrranno 730 TWh e viteranno 438 milioni di tonnellate di CO2", ha concluso Sawyer. Come dire, "l'equivalente della dismissione di 90 centrali a carbone".

The IET: EWEC 2009 - Commissioner calls for more wind

Published on 18 March 2009

IET news archive

By Mark Venables, at EWEC 2009, Marseille

Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on according to Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner.

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Speaking at the opening event of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) in Marseille Piebalgs went to say that it made good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power that hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage.

According to the European Commission, 3.5 per cent of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. We sit on less than 2 per cent of the world's gas; less than 2 per cent of its uranium and we have under 1 per cent of the world's oil.

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The IET: EWEC 2009 - EU recovery plan vital for energy sector

Published on 18 March 2009

IET news archive

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Christian Kjaer, EWEA chief executive, warned that the plan must prioritise the technologies of tomorrow and ensure a green recovery, otherwise the stimulus will fail.

The €565m that the plan dedicates to finance offshore wind will create jobs, provide new R&D opportunities to make the power sector more efficient and less expensive, improve operations and maintenance, and speed up market deployment.

The proposed EU economic recovery plan currently sets aside €3,900bn for energy projects including over €890m for key strategic interconnections in the power grid. The €565m for offshore wind includes the initiation of the first stage of a North Sea offshore grid. These measures will help unlock the largest European indigenous energy resource and stimulate Europe's lagging economies.

US President Barack Obama's \$787bn (€608bn) economic stimulus plan offers \$7bn in loan guarantees for renewable energy projects, \$13bn to tax credits for renewable energy production and is putting \$11bn into modernising the power grid. \$1.25bn is being earmarked for research and development in renewables and \$500m is going to workforce training for renewable and energy efficiency careers.

"The Member States would do well to be proportionally ambitious if they want to ensure their economies get a real stimulus and retain and consolidate their global technological leadership in renewable energies," he added. "Governments need to offer loan guarantees to wind energy and other renewables projects, prioritising the technologies of tomorrow, otherwise their stimulus will fail.

"Indeed, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recently recommended that one third of the around \$2.5tr-worth of planned stimulus packages worldwide should be used to 'green' the world economy, as this would help "power the global economy out of recession".

The national recovery plans of the European countries do not even come close.

The EU recovery plan is now due to be discussed by EU heads of state at the spring summit on 19-20 March. The plan will then be approved by the European Parliament.

The IET: EWEC 2009 - Higher wind targets for EU

Published on 18 March 2009

By Mark Venables, at EWEC 2009, Marseille

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"The agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook.

"We have therefore increased our targets. However, these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the directive swiftly and effectively."

Previously, EWEA's target was set at 180 GW of installed capacity in the EU by 2020, including 35 GW offshore. The new 230 GW target would produce approximately 600 TWh per year in the EU by 2020, power equivalent to the needs of 135 million average EU households (60 per cent of EU households) and meeting between 14 and 18 per cent of EU electricity demand (depending on total demand in 2020).

Mechtild Rothe, Vice President of the European Parliament said that wind energy can make a real difference to employment and economies. "Wind energy is an excellent example of how to intelligently invest in a future-orientated sustainable economy getting thousands of people into jobs," she said.

"Especially in these times of uncertainty it is very important that the European wind energy industry has created more than 60,000 new jobs over the past five years. These are not mere statistics - this is the competitive strength of Europe! Wind energy has definitely become a driving force of our economies. We have learned from the current crisis that we should not wait until the problems are there before we act – we need to invest in wind energy now."

Rinnovabili.it: Dalla conferenza europea sull'eolico

EWEA: dare il via libera al Recovery Plan europeo

Ora più che mai è necessario che i 27 trovino un rapido accordo sul piano di aiuti, lasciando in primo piano un orientamento 'verde'

La crisi finanziaria sarà la priorità che i leader Ue si troveranno ad affrontare nel summit di questo giovedì e venerdì, per passare poi al Parlamento europeo, una priorità su cui si riversano le attese di tutta l'Europa. L'invito che arriva dall'European Wind Energy Conference (Ewec) 2009 è quello di un'urgenza d'intesa nei confronti del Recovery Plan della Commissione Europea e su cui i Ventisette sembrano finora non riuscire proprio a trovare un accordo, continuando a discutere sulla distribuzione dei fondi. "È indispensabile che i capi di stato europei approvino il Piano di aiuti all'economia al Vertice di Primavera di questa settimana", ha messo in guardia Christian Kjaer, CEO dell'EWEA sottolineando la necessità che tale pacchetto di stimoli privilegi le tecnologie più innovative e garantisca una svolta verde. I 565 milioni di euro destinati dal piano per finanziare gli impianti eolici offshore – sottolinea Kjaer – creerà posti di lavoro, fornirà nuove opportunità di ricerca e sviluppo per rendere il settore energetico più efficiente e meno costoso, migliorare operazioni e manutenzione, e accelerare la distribuzione sul mercato. Secondo l'associazione gli Stati membri dovrebbero mostrarsi proporzionalmente ambiziosi se sono intenzionati a garantire alla loro economia un reale stimolo, mantenendo e consolidando la loro leadership tecnologica a livello mondiale nel settore delle energie rinnovabili. "I governi devono offrire garanzie sui prestiti per l'energia eolica e di altri progetti in materia di energie rinnovabili, con priorità per le tecnologie di domani, altrimenti gli aiuti non andranno a buon fine".

Newstin: Ewea: 'necessari subito i 5 miliardi di euro per l'economia UE e le rinnovabili'

da "(Ewea)ia del vento energ'Associazione europea dell'capo esecutivo dell "Christian Kjaer ha lanciato 2009 (Ewec)European Wind Energy Conference 'dove è in corso l "Marsiglia economia al Consiglio di'appello affinche gli Stati Europei diano il via libera al piano di aiuti all'l ambito del'nell "miliardi 5ordato che il pacchetto da Kjaer ha ric "primavera di questa settimana a (miliardi 3,9)economia riserva una fetta consistente di finanziamenti 'piano europeo di aiuti all progetti energetici e in

WindTech: EWEC - Positive impulses for international wind energy sector

While the economic downturn will have a short-term impact on the markets, political support and the growing number of utility and institutional investors will see the wind sector ride out the storm.

Announcing new figures at the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) has increased its latest targets for installed wind

capacity from 180 gigawatts (GW) to 230 GW by 2020. Coming at a time when global markets are in freefall, at first glance such sentiments may seem misplaced.

True enough, with the credit crunch all but stifling conventional project finance, in the short term some projects do appear vulnerable. This is anticipated to be expressed as a wave of development delays that may see installed capacity in 2009 down by as much as a fifth on 2008 figures as projects are frozen out of the market. Inevitably striking smaller developers, marginal projects and those without financing already in place, prospective offshore wind developments are looking most at risk.

Nonetheless, considering the market fundamentals the industry is convinced that the wind sector will emerge still stronger in 2010. It reasons that while more could be done to support the sector, such as government-backed credit guarantees and a more liquid, interconnected European electricity market, the political mandate to expand renewable capacity and the emergence of new sources of project finance are sufficiently robust to counteract the current economic turmoil.

Fundamental Political Support:

Delivering the revised targets, Arthouros Zervos (left), president of EWEA, cited the positive political environment as being behind the move, saying: "The agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook."

"However," he warned, "these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the Directive swiftly and effectively."

EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs spoke reassuringly of high-level political support at the opening session of EWEC, the first major industry meeting since the Directive was passed, "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on. It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power, which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage."Nobuo Tanaka, executive director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), also highlighted the role that renewables have to play in the future energy scenario but he also echoed Zervos' warning that in order to tap into wind's full potential. "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework."

Tanaka contends that renewables will deliver perhaps half of the carbon cuts that are believed to be required to cap atmospheric concentrations of CO2 to 450 ppm and limit the impacts of climate change. Zervos subsequently argued that the IEA had consistently underestimated the contribution of wind to the OECD energy mix and that the IEA's suggested contributions from CCS and nuclear — as much as 50% combined — were simply "not going to happen."

Instead, he sees renewables contributing as much as 85% of the total carbon savings required. As Roland Sundén, CEO of LM Glasfiber and chair of EWEC 2009 had noted earlier, "In 2008, more wind was installed in the EU than any other power generating technology. The track record of wind is the most visible proof that it creates great value. And as the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant."

There are now a total of 65 GW of wind power in the EU, producing some 142 Terawatthours (TWh) of electricity, about 4.2% of demand.

Short-term Economic Fall Out:

Despite the depth of this political support, the sector does acknowledge that it will inevitably experience a short-term slow down during the financial crisis. For example, previously the EWEA target of 180 GW included 35 GW of offshore capacity, whereas the new numbers include just 40 GW of offshore, a declining proportion that reflects the more marginal nature of such developments and the difficulty in executing such developments in the wake of the credit crunch.

Indeed, in a new analysis by Emerging Energy Research (EER), also released at the EWEC conference, the company notes that the financial crisis is to some extent stalling Europe's wind energy market, with new wind plant commissions dropping by as much as 19% this year when compared to 2008. The company's analysis finds that Europe is expected to add 7836 megawatts (MW) of wind capacity in 2009, down from 9556 MW in 2008. Western Europe will see the biggest drop in MW added, it says, while longer term, riskier markets in Eastern Europe and offshore may see delays.

The company says that the global credit crunch is leading to project postponements in key scaling markets such as the UK, Italy and France. With project finance almost frozen, only large players with strong balance sheets will be able to build new capacity in 2009, it says. Furthermore, according to EER, major utilities such as EDP, Iberdrola, Endesa, E.ON or RWE have already secured financing for their short-term pipelines, while smaller players have been forced to look for partners or to put their growth plans on stand-by.

Even so EER also concludes that the long-term fundamentals of Europe's wind energy sector remain strong, particularly after 2010.

Growth in New Markets in the Long-Term:

Improved liquidity in Europe's credit markets, anticipated by the end of 2009, will likely boost growth in 2010 to 2008 levels, and steady growth is expected after 2011, helped by an expanding offshore wind market, with the overall wind market in Europe expected to surpass 16 GW in annual additions by 2020, says EER.

According to the analysis, Spain will keep its position as the largest onshore wind growth market in Europe throughout most of the forecast period, and despite a slow start, France will be the leading onshore growth market in Europe in 2010 and onward, due mainly to improvements to the permitting process, larger projects, higher wind incentives and the presence of leading wind players. In addition, Poland, Turkey, Romania, and Bulgaria, will add a combined average of 1.1 GW per year between 2009 and 2020, while Nordic onshore will start ramping up as Finland, Norway and Sweden define support schemes and development plans.

Offshore will be a key component to boosting Europe's long-term growth prospects. EER forecasts that Europe will add over 1100 MW in 2010 offshore, led by a diverse group of markets including UK, Germany, and to a lesser extent Sweden. Projection for offshore installations during 2009 comes in at around 340 MW. European offshore activity is expected to account for as much as 27% of installed capacity in 2020 across 12 European countries. "Offshore developments will be the cornerstone of the development of utilities including E.ON, Centrica, DONG, Vattenfall, or RWE," said EER's senior analyst Eduard Sala de Vedruna.

EER further forecasts that global wind energy markets will grow from the 29 GW added in 2009 to over 61 GW in 2020, although Europe, the global wind energy market leader in 2008, will be overtaken by Asia and North America. "European markets will have to turn to offshore, repowering, and emerging markets for growth," he added.

Support Measures:

EWEA also concedes that while the wind energy sector is attracting new sources of capital that compensate for banks' reluctance to provide project finance — such as a growing number of power companies with strong balance sheets and increasing interest from institutional investors — governments and the European Investment Bank must urgently establish loan guarantees to ease the banking liquidity squeeze and accelerate economic recovery.

"EU governments should learn a lesson from the U.S. recovery plan, which provides billions of dollars in loan guarantees to renewables. We need all channels of finance, including bank lending and export credits, to be wide open to meet demand," said EWEA CEO Christian Kjaer. "This short-term difficulty does not accurately reflect the medium-term attractiveness of the sector. In a recent survey we found that 75% of institutional investors say they are likely to invest more in the sector by 2012," added Michael Liebreich of analysts New Energy Finance, also speaking at the conference.

Despite the depth of the financial crisis, the sector expects to be among the first to emerge from it and "if anything, wind energy is less risky today than a year ago, following the EU Heads of States' agreement in December 2008 to set binding national targets for the share

of renewable energy in all 27 Member States," Liebreich continued.

"Wind power investments carry more economic certainty than other energy investments since investors are not exposed to unpredictable fuel and carbon prices," Kjaer concluded.

However, EWEA also set out a series of measures, which it says are vital if this rapid recovery is to be achieved.

Among these requirements is the passage of the European Commission's €5 billion recovery plan that is due to be voted on by EU heads of state at the current spring summit. The plan will then head for approval by the European Parliament.

The €565 million that the plan dedicates to finance offshore wind, including the first stage of a North Sea offshore grid, will create jobs, provide new R&D opportunities to make the power sector more efficient and less expensive, improve operations and maintenance, and speed up market deployment, says EWEA.

Meanwhile, EWEA has also called for the development of an extended grid with changed operating procedures, which it says is necessary to rejuvenate the EU's power system, and will help reduce its operational costs.

"At current fuel prices, electricity production costs from a new wind farm, coal plant and gas station are more or less the same. If a truly interconnected European grid existed and power markets were effective, the uncertainty of volatile carbon and fuel prices would ensure that wind, which avoids these unknown quantities, would become the most cost-effective of the three," explained Zervos, adding: "We need the power markets to work to ensure that future investors are fully exposed to fuel and carbon price risk."

"If the EU is to meet its CO2 reduction and renewables targets, improve security of supply and create real competition in the European power market, we need to extend our power grids and change the way we operate them," Zervos concluded.

For more information please contact Trevor Sievert at ts@windfair.net

Les energies de la mer: EWEC 2009 : une petite place pour l'éolien en mer

MARSEILLE (France-Union Européenne) - 20/03/2009 - 3B Conseils - Dans le cadre de l'EWEC 2009 (European Wind Energy Conference) qui vient de s'achever à Marseille et qui a réuni plus de 7500 participants venus du monde entier, plusieurs conférences ont eu lieu, cette année, autour de l'éolien offshore auquel une petite place a

donc été réservée.

Dès l'ouverture, Christian Kjaer, directeur de l'EWEC a particulièrement mis l'accent sur le Plan de Relance économique de l'Union Européenne actuellement discuté par les chefs d'Etats au sommet de printemps de l'Union Européenne (références documentaires de l'UE sur le sujet ICI). Il a averti que ce plan " devrait privilégier les technologies de demain sous peine de ne servir à rien ". Sur un plan de relance de € 200 milliards, € 3,9 milliards sont prévus pour les énergies en général, dont € 565 millions spécifiquement pour l'éolien offshore. Cela servira sans aucun doute à créer de nouveaux emplois (l'éolien en crée actuellement déjà 33 par jour dans l'UE), à ouvrir de nouvelles opportunités de R&D pour rendre le secteur plus efficace et moins cher, à finaliser les problèmes d'entretien et à booster le déploiement du marché... à condition toutefois que ce plan soit ensuite approuvé par le Parlement Européen. Même on a cru comprendre que c'était en priorité aux projets en Mer du Nord que cette manne européenne devait en priorité bénéficier, il n'est pas interdit de penser que des projets français existants ou à venir puissent y trouver leur compte. Le mercredi 18 avait lieu la première des conférences spécifiquement consacrées l'éolien offshore sur le thème Développement du Marché offshore et ses perspectives; elle était pilotée par Chris Westra (Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands) et Frederic Lanoe (WPD offshore France S.A.S). Des interventions principalement danoises et britanniques, il est ressorti globalement que l'éolien offshore a fini par conquérir les investisseurs et les pouvoirs publics (au Royaume-Uni en tout cas) et que les réticences dues aux problèmes de raccordement au réseau terrestre et à l'entretien en mer des turbines semblent peu à peu s'effacer devant les multiples autres avantages de la technologie que nous connaissons tous pour notre part à savoir : pas de nuisances environnementales et constance de la ressource assurant une production plus fiable. Il a été beaucoup question du Crown Estate britannique, très actif dans le domaine des renouvelables offshore en général et qui a l'intention de tout faire pour faciliter un accès administratif simplifié aux énergies renouvelables marines et en particulier à l'éolien offshore. Mais ça il nous avait déjà semblé le comprendre aussi ces derniers mois. Au final, pas grand-chose de nouveau si ce n'est qu'il semble nettement se dessiner un mouvement en faveur des parcs éoliens en haute mer qui ont plus la faveur des investisseurs que ceux situés plus près des côtes. Et cela c'est plutôt assez nouveau.

Jeudi 19, deuxième conférence offshore sur les Différences de mode de financements entre les projets onshore et les projets offshore. La conférence pilotée par Nick Gardiner (Fortis Bank U.K) et Christopher Knowland (Euromoney) a vu notamment l'intervention de John Dunlop (HSH Nordbank AG London) et de James Donaldson (Investec Bank UK). L'intervention de John Dunlop a porté sur les différences principales existant entre les financements des projets onshore versus les projets offshore. La démonstration était basée sur une étude de cas de la branche londonienne de la HSH Nordbank. En déduction de ces interventions, là encore il apparaît clairement que l'attractivité de l'offshore va croissant, même si le marché reste encore - "pour l'instant" - marginal par rapport à l'onshore. Et cet intérêt croissant des investisseurs maintient la " bonne forme " du secteur de l'énergie éolienne malgré le manque de liquidités bancaires. Pour les investisseurs, et malgré son

aspect marginal, l'éolien offshore n'en demeure pas moins le prochain grand défi à relever rapidement en matière énergétique. Le seul point en défaveur de l'offshore reste les performances techniques inégales des divers types de turbines en mer, soulignées à diverses reprises dans les interventions.

La prochaine conférence de l'EWEC aura lieu à Varsovie en Pologne du 20 au 23 Avril 2010.

Article: Francis ROUSSEAU

Recharge News: European utility giants in 2050 carbon-free pledge

Europe's big electricity companies have promised to achieve carbon-neutral electricity supply by 2050, as well as work for an integrated European market that will deliver more energy efficiency.

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"Today the European electricity industry is making a clear commitment to achieving a carbon-neutral sector by mid-century."

Eurelectric President Lars G. Josefsson

The promise was made in a declaration handed over in Brussels to EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs by sixty electricity company chief executives (CEOs).

The CEOs, meeting in Brussels to discuss key energy issues said that this objective will mean deploying all economic low-carbon power generation options including nuclear power and carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology. They called on Piebalgs and his fellow European policymakers to ensure a framework conducive to attaining these objectives, including more support for CCS demonstration.

The CEO's represent power companies in 27 countries that jointly producing 2500 TWh electricity per year, equivalent to over 70% of total European power generation, industry association Eurelectric said. The declaration was timed for the eve of the European Council meeting in Brussels, where EU government heads will discuss an economic recovery plan and major energy and climate issues.

Eurelectric President Lars G. Josefsson said: "Today the European electricity industry is making a clear commitment to achieving a carbon-neutral sector by mid-century. At the same time I and my fellow CEOs have reiterated our belief that a competitive functioning

market is the best means to deliver on this goal in a cost-effective manner while also ensuring the basic imperative of supply security."

Meanwhile in Marseilles, the European Wind Association (EWEA) called on the EU to force large utility groups such as France's EDF, Germany's E.ON and RWE to sell off their transmission divisions or "unbundle" in order to ensure that power markets are fully competitive and not biased towards from traditional fuels, which still make up the vast bulk of the big utilities generation capacity.

"At current fuel prices, electricity production costs from a new wind farm, coal plant and gas station are more or less the same," said EWEA President Arthouros Zervos. "If a truly interconnected European grid existed and power markets were effective, the uncertainty of volatile carbon and fuel prices would ensure that wind – which avoids these unknown quantities – would become the most cost-effective of the three. We need the power markets to ensure that future investors are fully exposed to fuel and carbon price risk."

The EWEA added in a statement "EU power markets currently remain biased towards traditional fuels because they are dominated by vertically-integrated power companies. For a truly competitive market, the full ownership unbundling of the vertically-integrated power companies is necessary."

In the new Renewable Energy Directive, electricity from renewable sources has been guaranteed priority dispatch and priority access to the grid. The EWEA says "In the absence of full unbundling, priority access and dispatch are both extremely important for the sector." However it warns "there are still issues such as bottlenecks (where parts of the grid are used to their full capacity) which restrict access to cheaper generation resources such as wind power."

Ben Backwell

Ugens Erhverv: Vind/EWEA: Messestørrelse bekræfter branchens gode tilstand

Den europæiske vindenergikonference EWEC i Marseille viste en branche, der har det godt - trods finanskrisen. Det vurderer arrangøren, den europæiske vindenergiorganisation, EWEA, der peger på, at deltagertallet var markant større end året forinden.

- For omkring et halvt år siden var vi ret sikre på, at det ville være en kæmpestor fest, hvor alle var glade, men så kom selvfølgelig denne her finansielle og økonomiske krise. Det var en bekymring, vi havde, men vi er glade for, at den var ubegrundet, siger administrerende direktør i EWEA, Christian Kjær, til RB-Børsen.

Der var i år over 7300 deltagere på messen mod omkring 6000 i Bruxelles i 2008. Og

selvom størrelsen på en branchekonference naturligvis ikke kan tages som eneste grundlag for en konklusion, så mener EWEA-chefen alligevel, at det har lidt at sige.

- Vi tager det som et symptom på en branche, der alt andet lige har det godt. Ikke, at den ikke ville have det bedre, hvis vi kunne få likviditeten til at flyde igen og få pengene op af bankernes lommer. Men for mig er det klart, at vindmølleindustrien i forhold til mange andre brancher sandsynligvis har det bedre, siger Christian Kjær.

Han vurderer samtidig, at kundesiden har en stor del af æren for, at vindindustrien er blevet mindre hårdt ramt af krisen.

- Jeg tror, det hænger sammen med vores kundegrundlag. Nogle af vores største kunder, elselskaberne, har været i stand til at akkumulere enorme mængder kontanter på deres balancer. Og jeg tror, at denne krise kommer til at betyde den trend henimod mere ejerskab fra elselskabernes side, som man har set de sidste tre, fire år, sandsynligvis vil blive accelereret. For det er dem, der har pengene. Dem, der traditionelt har udviklet projekter, uafhængige elproducenter osv., der er afhængige af banklån, de er selvfølgelig ramt af den her likviditetskrise, siger Christian Kjær.

Den nye kundegruppe giver en ny konkurrencesituation for producenterne.

Organisationschefen vil ikke sætte firmanavne på, hvad det betyder for hvem, men han konstaterer, at der både kan være fordele ved at satse på større og mindre projekter.

- De forskellige selskaber har forskellige strategier i forhold til, hvilke kundegrupper, de vil have. Der er jo nogen, der siger, at de gerne vil have store ordrer. Men det er klart, at forhandlingssituationen for elselskaberne på de her store ordrer gør, at profitten bliver lavere, men til gengæld er det et meget stort antal møller. Så er der andre, der går efter at få en højere profitmargin ved at gå ud til mindre kunder, konstaterer Christian Kjær.

Vindenergikonferencen i Marseille slutter torsdag.

(RB-Børsen: Tlf: 33300335, E-mail: redaktion@rb-borsen.dk, www.rb-borsen.dk)

Envirocentre: Wind energy gives Europe a competitive advantage, says EU Energy Commissioner

Source: EWEC

[&]quot;Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the

European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

According to the European Commission, 3.5% of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. We sit on less than 2% of the world's gas; less than 2% of its uranium and we have under 1% of the world's oil. "The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's President, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the €35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

Wind energy's contribution to prosperity is analysed in detail in a new EWEA report launched

today, which Zervos presented to delegates. 'The Economics of Wind Energy' (1.68MB) provides a detailed insight into wind energy economics and compares the costs of wind to those of other power-generating technologies.

Zervos also announced that EWEA has increased its 2020 target for installed wind energy capacity in the EU from 180 GW to 230 GW, including 40 GW offshore. He explained that "the agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook. We have therefore increased our targets. However, these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the directive swiftly and effectively."

Previously, EWEA's target was set at 180 GW of installed capacity in the EU by 2020, including 35 GW offshore. The new 230 GW target would produce approximately 600 TWh per year in the EU by 2020, power equivalent to the needs of 135 million average EU households (60% of EU households) and meeting between 14 and 18% of EU electricity demand (depending on total demand in 2020). View full article here.

Renewable Energy World: Wind Prospects Positive at EWEC

While the economic downturn will have a short-term impact on the markets, political support and the growing number of utility and institutional investors will see the wind sector ride out the storm.

by David Appleyard, Associate Editor

Marseille, France [RenewableEnergyWorld.com]

Announcing new figures at the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition, which ran all this week, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) has increased its latest targets for installed wind capacity from 180 gigawatts (GW) to 230 GW by 2020. Coming at a time when global markets are in freefall, at first glance such sentiments may seem misplaced.

"It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage."

-- EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs

True enough, with the credit crunch all but stifling conventional project finance, in the short term some projects do appear vulnerable. This is anticipated to be expressed as a wave of development delays that may see installed capacity in 2009 down by as much as a fifth on 2008 figures as projects are frozen out of the market. Inevitably striking smaller developers, marginal projects and those without financing already in place, prospective offshore wind developments are looking most at risk.

Nonetheless, considering the market fundamentals the industry is convinced that the wind sector will emerge still stronger in 2010. It reasons that while more could be done to support the sector, such as government-backed credit guarantees and a more liquid, interconnected European electricity market, the political mandate to expand renewable capacity and the emergence of new sources of project finance are sufficiently robust to counteract the current economic turmoil.

Fundamental Political Support

Delivering the revised targets, Arthouros Zervos (left), president of EWEA, cited the positive political environment as being behind the move, saying: "The agreement on the EU Renewable Energy Directive in December 2008 and its mandatory 2020 renewables targets for the Member States have increased our optimism for the sector's outlook."

"However," he warned, "these targets will only be met if all the Member States implement the Directive swiftly and effectively."

EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs spoke reassuringly of high-level political support at the opening session of EWEC, the first major industry meeting since the Directive was passed, "Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on. It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power, which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage."Nobuo Tanaka, executive director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), also highlighted the role that renewables have to play in the future energy scenario but he also echoed Zervos' warning that in order to tap into wind's full potential. "we need effective national policies and a strong international framework."

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Instead, he sees renewables contributing as much as 85% of the total carbon savings required. As Roland Sundén, CEO of LM Glasfiber and chair of EWEC 2009 had noted earlier, "In 2008, more wind was installed in the EU than any other power generating technology. The track record of wind is the most visible proof that it creates great value. And as the financial and economic crises deepen, this becomes especially relevant."

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Short-term Economic Fall Out

Despite the depth of this political support, the sector does acknowledge that it will inevitably experience a short-term slow down during the financial crisis. For example, previously the EWEA target of 180 GW included 35 GW of offshore capacity, whereas the new numbers include just 40 GW of offshore, a declining proportion that reflects the more marginal nature of such developments and the difficulty in executing such developments in the wake of the credit crunch.

Indeed, in a new analysis by Emerging Energy Research (EER), also released at the EWEC conference, the company notes that the financial crisis is to some extent stalling Europe's wind energy market, with new wind plant commissions dropping by as much as 19% this year when compared to 2008. The company's analysis finds that Europe is expected to add 7836 megawatts (MW) of wind capacity in 2009, down from 9556 MW in 2008. Western Europe will see the biggest drop in MW added, it says, while longer term, riskier markets in Eastern Europe and offshore may see delays.

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Growth in New Markets in the Long-Term

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EER further forecasts that global wind energy markets will grow from the 29 GW added in 2009 to over 61 GW in 2020, although Europe, the global wind energy market leader in 2008, will be overtaken by Asia and North America. "European markets will have to turn to offshore, repowering, and emerging markets for growth," he added. (See chart, below, depicting the predicted European wind energy annual GW added from 2008-2020. Source: Emerging Energy Research)

Support Measures

EWEA also concedes that while the wind energy sector is attracting new sources of capital that compensate for banks' reluctance to provide project finance — such as a growing number of power companies with strong balance sheets and increasing interest from institutional investors — governments and the European Investment Bank must urgently establish loan guarantees to ease the banking liquidity squeeze and accelerate economic recovery.

"EU governments should learn a lesson from the U.S. recovery plan, which provides billions of dollars in loan guarantees to renewables. We need all channels of finance, including bank lending and export credits, to be wide open to meet demand," said EWEA CEO Christian Kjaer. "This short-term difficulty does not accurately reflect the medium-term attractiveness of the sector. In a recent survey we found that 75% of institutional investors say they are

likely to invest more in the sector by 2012," added Michael Liebreich of analysts New Energy Finance, also speaking at the conference.

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"If the EU is to meet its CO2 reduction and renewables targets, improve security of supply and create real competition in the European power market, we need to extend our power grids and change the way we operate them," Zervos concluded.

Don't forget to look out for the upcoming report by our Technology Correspondent, Eize de Vries, on the latest wind sector technology developments revealed at EWEC 2009.

Actualites News: L'énergie éolienne offre à l'Europe un avantage compétitif 17/03/2009 09:56 (Par Pierre MELQUIOT)

L'énergie éolienne offre à l'Europe un avantage compétitif
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chargé de l'Énergie, lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence et exposition
européennes sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) qui a lieu à Marseille, l'énergie éolienne offre à
l'Europe un avantage compétitif.

Selon le Commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie, lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence et exposition européennes sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) qui a lieu à Marseille, l'énergie éolienne offre à l'Europe un avantage compétitif.

Andris Piebalgs, Commissaire européen chargé de l'Énergie, lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence et exposition européennes sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC) organisée par EWEA (European Wind Energy Association), « l'énergie éolienne peut remplacer une grande partie des carburants polluants disponibles en quantités finies et dont nous dépendons aujourd'hui. »

Selon Andris Piebalgs, « il est tout à fait approprié d'investir dans des sources d'énergie locales qui prémunissent contre les fluctuations des cours des carburants fossiles et dans lesquelles l'Europe a un réel avantage compétitif. »

D'après la Commission européenne, l'Union Européenne détient 3,5 % des réserves de charbon au niveau mondial. Son sous-sol renferme moins de 2 % des réserves de gaz mondial, moins de 2 % de l'uranium mondial et moins d'un pour cent du pétrole mondial.

« La lutte pour le contrôle des ressources de carburants dont les réserves s'épuisent rapidement gagne déjà en intensité. Elle ne pourra que s'intensifier avec le temps et l'Europe perdra cette bataille. Les entreprises européennes détiennent les deux tiers du marché mondial des technologies de l'énergie éolienne qui s'élève à 35 milliards d'euros. L'énergie éolienne est la contribution de l'Europe à la paix, au progrès et à la prospérité et il est urgent pour nous de la développer, de la promouvoir et de l'exporter du mieux que nous le pouvons » a déclaré de son côté Arthouros Zervos, Président d'EWEA, lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence et exposition européennes sur l'énergie éolienne (EWEC).

La contribution de l'énergie éolienne à la prospérité est analysée en détail dans un nouveau rapport publié ce mardi 17 mars 2009 par EWEA et présenté aux participants par Arthouros Zervos. Ce document intitulé « The Economics of Wind Energy » offre un panorama complet de l'économie de l'énergie éolienne et compare les coûts du vent à ceux d'autres technologies génératrices d'électricité.

Arthouros Zervos a également annoncé que EWEA a révisé à la hausse son objectif pour 2020 en termes de capacité éolienne installée dans l'UE, en la portant de 180 à 230 GW, dont 40 GW pour l'éolien offshore. « L'accord concernant la Directive sur les énergies renouvelables signé en décembre 2008 et les objectifs que les États membres doivent atteindre d'ici 2020 en matière d'approvisionnement énergétique durable nous ont rendus plus optimistes pour l'avenir du secteur. Nous avons dès lors augmenté nos objectifs. Toutefois, ils ne seront atteints que si tous les États membres mettent en oeuvre cette directive efficacement et dans les plus brefs délais », a-t-il assuré.

EWEA avait initialement fixé un objectif de 180 GW de capacité installée dans l'UE à l'horizon 2020, dont 35 GW en offshore. Le nouvel objectif de 230 GW devrait permettre de produire près de 600 TWh par an dans l'UE d'ici 2020, soit une puissance équivalant aux besoins de 135 millions de foyers européens de taille moyenne (60 % des foyers européens) et qui couvrirait de 14 à 18 % de la demande d'électricité de l'UE (selon la demande totale en 2020).

Mechtild Rothe, vice-présidente du Parlement européen a affirmé que l'énergie éolienne peut avoir des retombées considérables sur l'emploi et l'économie. « L'énergie éolienne est un excellent exemple qui montre comment investir intelligemment dans une économie durable tournée vers l'avenir en permettant à des milliers de personnes de trouver un emploi », a-t-elle déclaré. « Et notamment en ces temps d'incertitude, il est très important que le secteur de l'énergie éolienne en Europe ait créé plus de 60 000 nouveaux emplois au cours des cinq dernières années. Il ne s'agit pas que de simples chiffres. Il s'agit de la force compétitive de l'Europe ! L'énergie éolienne est incontestablement devenue une force motrice de nos économies. La crise actuelle nous a enseigné qu'il ne faut plus attendre mais agir avant que les problèmes ne se présentent. C'est maintenant qu'il faut investir dans l'énergie éolienne ».

Nobuo Tanaka, directeur exécutif de l'Agence Internationale de l'Énergie (AIE) a souligné lors de sa présentation les bénéfices de l'énergie éolienne pour l'environnement en déclarant qu'elle « a un rôle important à jouer dans l'atténuation des changements climatiques » mais que pour exploiter tout le potentiel du vent « nous avons besoin de politiques nationales efficaces et d'un cadre international solide. Nous devons renforcer, étendre et interconnecter nos réseaux de transmission. Nous devons également renforcer les efforts entrepris dans la recherche et le développement dans les technologies de l'énergie éolienne ». Nabuo Tanaka a également souligné qu'il faut absolument baser les plans de

relance économique sur des investissements « verts »pour donner un stimulus à court terme et obtenir des bénéfices à long terme.

Selon Roland Sundén, PDG de LM Glasfiber et Président de l'EWEC 2009, « en 2008, la capacité éolienne installée en UE dépasse toutes les autres technologies génératrices d'électricité. Les résultats enregistrés par le secteur éolien sont la preuve la plus tangible que le vent est créateur d'une valeur appréciable. Alors que la crise financière et économique s'aggrave, cela devient particulièrement pertinent, et cette pertinence ouvre une fenêtre d'opportunités historique à tous ceux qui sont engagés à lutter contre les changements climatiques, à soutenir le leadership technologique et à créer de nouvelles exportations compétitives et des emplois ».

André Antolini, président du Syndicat des énergies renouvelables (SER) a cité la France comme exemple spécifique de ce que le vent peut apporter à l'économie. Il a souligné que « en France, plus de 130 sociétés fabriquent maintenant des composantes ou offrent des services au secteur de l'énergie éolienne. Le vent est bénéfique à l'industrie et à l'économie ». Marcin Korolec, Secrétaire d'Etat au ministère de l'économie en Pologne a tout à fait approuvé ces paroles ajoutant que « Le développement de l'énergie éolienne stimule toute l'économie, particulièrement en temps de crise ».

Jean-Louis Bal, en charge de la Direction des énergies renouvelables de l'ADEME, a souligné les conséquences importantes que les objectifs fixés pour 2020 auront sur notre avenir, estimant que « les objectifs 20-20-20 à atteindre d'ici 2020 représentent un investissement important, mais également un investissement dont les avantages à moyen et long termes dépasseront les coûts. »

Pour matérialiser graphiquement les avantages de l'énergie éolienne, Roland Sundén a déclenché un « compteur d'énergie éolienne » qui restera actif jusqu'à la clôture de l'EWEC. Il indiquera la quantité d'électricité produite en Europe à partir du vent, le nombre d'investissements effectués, ainsi que le nombre d'emplois créés et de turbines installées pendant ces quatre jours.

L'EWEC se tient à Marseille jusqu'au jeudi 19 mars. D'autres séances aborderont des questions politiques, techniques, scientifiques et de réseaux liées à l'énergie éolienne.

Your renewable news: Wind energy gives Europe a competitive advantage, says EU Energy Commissioner

Tuesday, Mar 17, 2009

"Wind energy can replace a large proportion of the polluting and finite fuels we currently rely on," explained Andris Piebalgs, EU Energy Commissioner, at the opening session of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) this morning. "It makes good sense to invest in indigenous sources of power which hedge against unpredictable fossil fuel prices and in which Europe has a real competitive advantage".

According to the European Commission, 3.5% of the world's proven coal reserves are in the EU. We sit on less than 2% of the world's gas; less than 2% of its uranium and we have under 1% of the world's oil. "The fight over the world's rapidly depleting fuel resources is already intensifying," emphasised Arthouros Zervos, EWEA's President, at the session. "It will only become more brutal with time and Europe will lose the battle. European companies have two thirds of the €35 billion global market for wind power technology. Wind energy is Europe's contribution to peace, progress and prosperity and we should urgently develop, promote and export it to the best of our ability."

Wind energy's contribution to prosperity is analysed in detail in a new EWEA report launched today, which Zervos presented to delegates. 'The Economics of Wind Energy' provides a detailed insight into wind energ

Newstin: L'énergie éolienne assure à l'Europe un avantage économique à renforcer

enu recalpmer tuep enneiloé eigrené'L » [ail à chaque nouvelle actualité Recevoir une alerte m grande partie des carburants polluants disponibles en quantités finies et dont nous dépendons Commissaire européen chargé de ,a expliqué hier matin Andris Piebalgs ,aujourd'hui » lors de la séance d'ouverture de la Conférence et exposition européennes sur l'énergie ,nergiel'É tiaf à tuot tse II » .(European Wind Energy Association)organisée par EWEA (EWEC)éolienne ent contre les fluctuationsapproprié d'investir dans des sources d'énergie locales qui prémuniss des cours des carburants fossiles et dans lesquelles l'Europe .a un réel avantage compétitif » des réserves de charbon au niveau % 3,51'UE détient ,D'après la Commission européenne de % 2moins de ,des réserves de gaz mondial % 2sol renferme moins de -Son sous .mondial

Enviro2B: L'énergie éolienne en mal de financement

Après plusieurs années de forte croissance, le vent souffle beaucoup moins fort dans les éoliennes. Selon les chiffres de News Energy Finance, en mal de financement, le secteur pourrait enregistrer une baisse d'activité de 10 à 15% cette année.

La conférence européenne de l'énergie éolienne qui s'est ouvert hier à Marseille est plutôt morose. Les professionnels réunis au EWEC (European Wind Energy Conference) jusqu'à jeudi dans la capitale phocéenne subissent clairement un coup de frein dans leur développement.

« L'accord de décembre 2008 entre les chefs d'État de l'Union européenne, qui oblige les 27 États membres à couvrir une partie de leurs besoins énergétiques en recourant à des énergies renouvelables, garantit les fondamentaux du secteur », a déclaré Claude Turmes, de la Commission européenne, se voulant rassurant. Même si le cabinet New Energy Finance juge la situation du secteur « saine », les chiffres sont en nette décélération.

- 15%

Pour New Energy Finance, le secteur de l'énergie éolienne pourrait voir son activité reculer de 10 à 15% en 2009. Gros consommateur de crédits, l'éolien subit de plein fouet la crise mondiale qui complique le montage financier de nombreux dossiers de parcs éoliens.

Selon Vestas, le géant du secteur, un tiers des commandes seraient gelées en raison de ce manque de crédits. Car excepté les

WindkraftJournal: EWEC 2009

Sonne, Wind & Wärme: Marseille im Mittelpunkt

Sund, Wind & Energy: EWEC 2009: Opportunities in current financial crisis