



ISLENET

European Islands Network on Energy & Environment



NEWSLETTER

December 2006

A word from the Manager

Dear Readers,

At the end of a fruitful year we extend our warm wishes for a **happy, healthy and prosperous 2007**.

2007 promises to be a productive year for island communities. ISLENET, together with no less than twelve partner islands, has already participated in eight new proposals in the framework of the last Intelligent Energy – Europe call for proposals that ended on 31 October 2006.

Furthermore we plan to have our 2007 ISLENET Conference in early October 2007, in conjunction with the activities of the **OPEN DAYS 2007 – European Week of Regions and Cities**.

ISLENET also welcomes the Danish islands of Lolland-Falster as a new member. Our website will include information about these island communities that have an impressive plan to prepare the region for the challenges of globalisation, including the development of a strategy focused at establishing Lolland-Falster as a showroom of sustainable energy and energy-saving technologies.

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ISLENET is a campaign associate of [Sustainable Energy Europe 2005-2008](#)

ISLENET Technical Committee Meeting Brussels 31 January 2007

The first meeting of the recently reconstituted ISLENET Technical Committee will take place in Brussels on **31 January 2007**.

This first meeting of the Technical Committee will establish the mission and the mandate of the Committee and will examine the programme of work for 2007 and beyond, in the process of reviewing the best technical and technological solutions appropriate for island communities.

The Technical Committee will meet in the periphery of the Managenergy Annual Conference and the European Unions first Sustainable Energy Week, which take place from the 29th till the 2nd of February.

European Commission unveils its Action Plan on Energy Efficiency

Saving 20% by 2020:

As a major step toward meeting the unprecedented energy challenges facing the EU, the European Commission on 19 October 2006 presented its Energy Efficiency Action Plan. The Plan contains a package of priority measures covering a wide range of cost-effective energy efficiency initiatives. These include actions to make energy appliances, buildings, transport and energy generation more efficient. Stringent new energy efficiency standards, promotion of energy services, specific financing mechanisms to support more energy efficient products are proposed. The Commission will furthermore set a Covenant of Mayors of the 20-30 most pioneering cities in Europe and will propose an international agreement on energy efficiency. Altogether, over 75 measures are set forth.

"Europeans need to save energy. Europe wastes at least 20% of the energy it uses. By saving energy, Europe will help address

climate change, as well as its rising consumption, and its dependence on fossil fuels imported from outside the Union's borders." said Energy Commissioner Piebalgs. "Energy efficiency is crucial for Europe: If we take action now, the direct cost of our energy consumption could be reduced by more than **€100 billion annually by 2020**; around **780 millions tonnes of CO2 will also be avoided yearly**" he pointed out.

The Action Plan, which will be implemented over the next six years, is in response to the urgent call from Heads of State and Government at the Spring European Council this year for a realistic Energy Efficiency strategy. The Plan underlines the importance of minimum energy performance standards for a wide range of appliances and equipment (from household goods such as fridges and air conditioners to industrial pumps and fans), and for buildings and energy services. In combination with performance ratings and labelling schemes minimum performance standards represent a powerful tool for removing inefficient products from the market, informing consumers of the most efficient products and transforming the market to make it more energy efficient. Minimum performance requirements for new and renovated buildings will be developed. Very low energy consumption buildings (or passive houses) will also be promoted.

The Plan emphasises the considerable potential for reducing losses in the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity. The Action Plan proposes targeted instruments to improve the efficiency of both new and existing generation capacity and to reduce transmission and distribution losses.

A comprehensive set of measures for improving energy efficiency in the area of transport is put forward. The Plan recognises that energy savings can be achieved, in particular, by ensuring fuel efficiency of cars, developing markets for cleaner vehicles, ensuring proper tyre pressure and by improving the efficiency of urban, rail, maritime and aviation transport systems. The Plan recognises the importance of changing transportation behaviour.

The Action Plan also calls for appropriate and predictable price signals, essential for improving energy efficiency and overall economic performance.

The Plan also contains a number of additional proposals to raise energy efficiency awareness, such as education and training. Finally, the Plan emphasises the urgent need for energy efficiency issues to be addressed on a global level through international partnerships.

The Action Plan on Energy Efficiency, when fully implemented, can thus improve the Union's competitiveness, improve the living standards of its citizens, boost employment and increase exports of new, energy-efficient technology. On an individual level, small changes in our energy consumption patterns will mean saving money, improving the environment and doing our share for our common European goals. For further information on the action plan please see:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/action_plan_energy_efficiency/index_en.htm

German EU Presidency

In the work programme of the forthcoming German EU Presidency (1 January 2007) the chapter on energy titled

Guaranteeing a secure, environmentally sound and competitive energy supply

Contains the following plans of the presidency:

.. In achieving our trio of goals, namely security of supply, efficiency and environmental compatibility, we must reduce the need for energy imports by boosting energy efficiency, saving energy and making greater use of renewable energies (also in the field of heating/cooling), for example, by increasingly tapping the potential offered by biomass and biofuels. All EU Member States are called to meet the goals set by 2010. Germany will promote the development of clear medium and long-term goals for renewable energies.

Efforts to improve energy efficiency will focus on the building sector as a major energy consumer, as well as on the product sector. The German Presidency will also be involved in the groundwork for a long-term and coherent EU fuel strategy and push ahead with proposals on innovative drives. A priority in this context is to safeguard Europe's technological leadership in this field. The 7th Research Framework Programme is designed to promote research and innovation in the energy sector.

Project News

1st FP7 Call for Proposals



FP7 - Seventh Framework Programme: 2007-2013

The European Commission launched on 22 December the first calls for proposals in the thematic areas of energy and sustainable surface transport.

Below please find the main FP7 Websites:

ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/ |
www.cordis.lu/fp7/

All relevant documents for this call published 22 December 2006 regarding Energy & Sustainable Surface Transport Calls may be found in:

[FP7-ENERGY-2007-1-RTD Energy](#)
[FP7-ENERGY-2007-2-TREN Energy](#)
[FP7-SST-2007-RTD-1 Sustainable Surface Transport](#)
[FP7-SST-2007-TREN-1 Sustainable Surface Transport](#)

If you are looking for partners for your project proposal, you may also visit and use the following site:

[Search for Partners for FP7 Projects](#)

FUTURE EU EVENTS

Sustainable Energy Week 2007



Under the umbrella of the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign (SEE), the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy

and Transport, the European Institutions and major stakeholders concerned with sustainable energy are together putting on the first EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW). It will take place in Brussels, Belgium, and in other cities across Europe from Monday 29 January to Friday 2 February, 2007.

The aim of the EUSEW is to become the key annual reference point for sustainable energy issues in Europe. The events organised during EUSEW cover key topics that highlight the multi-sectoral nature of sustainable energy development and stress the need for everyone to work together towards a common goal.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.eusew.eu/>

Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign in Italy : Managing EU Action at National Level

Date : Thursday 01/02/2007, pm
Location : Charlemagne S1 (120)

A public event is organised during the EUSEW on January 31 by the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (MELS), SEE Campaign Associate, in order to present the SEE Campaign in Italy.

MELS wants to implement the sustainability at local level as VISIBLE demonstration of the change of the energy / environmental policy according to the following driving actions : Implement the sustainability at local level (specific Sustainable Community Action Plan across Italy and Mediterranean area is under finalization), activate SEE Sustainable Communities partnerships in : Rural areas, Urban Areas, Sustainable Regions/cities, Small Islands, activate New SEE Actors effective for local sustainability. The workshop will be introduced by the Minister for Environment, Land and Sea and by the General Director of the Department of Environmental Research and Development.

Managenergy Annual Conference 2007

European Conference on Local Energy Action:
The 6th Annual Event for Energy Management Agents in Europe

as part of:

EUSEW: First EU Sustainable Energy Week
Brussels, Belgium and Live on the Internet

Sixth ManagEnergy Annual Conference
30 January to 1 February 2007

For more information, the programme and registration, please visit:

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



OTHER EVENTS



Bois Energie 2007 Exhibition, 19-22 April 2007, Orléans – France

website: www.boisenergie.com

This unique event in France showcases wood heating equipment (boilers, stoves, fire places), wood fuels, wood fuel production equipment, forestry management equipment for local authorities, professional and domestic users. 150 exhibitors and brands from 10 European countries and nearly 12,000 visitors during the last edition attended this highly focused event.

We are pleased to announce below the preliminary Programme of Events for the Salon Bois Energie 2007 :

Exhibition

A technology and services exhibition already attracting exhibitors from more than 10 European countries covering the entire wood energy chain.

Demonstrations

The Salon Bois Energie brings **wood energy to life** with indoor operating stoves and fireplaces to showcase the heating sector in its most dynamic light.

European Wind Energy Conference & Exhibition

MIC - Milano Convention Centre, Milan, Italy, 7-10 May 2007

The European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition is internationally recognised as the must-attend "Annual General Meeting" for all wind energy professionals.

The 2007 event will bring together over 4000 key players from the wind and electricity sectors for 4 days of intensive networking, new business development and information exchange.

<http://www.ewec2007.info/>

EREC – The European Renewable Energy Council - co-organises the 2007 European Renewable Energy Policy Conference together with the **German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety** in the frame of the German Presidency of the EU.

Date: 29 - 31 January 2007

Venue: Flagey Convention Centre, Place Saint Croix, 1050 Brussels

The conference taking place within the frame of the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union aims at:

- Presenting and evaluating the most important renewable energy policy developments and bringing forward new initiatives
- Facilitating networking between senior decision makers and leading industry players

<http://www.erec.org/>