



NEWS RELEASE

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WIND. POWER WITHOUT FUEL. WHO CAN SAY NO TO THAT? INDUSTRY LEADERS AND KEY POLITICIANS LAUNCH “NO FUEL” STRATEGY AT ANNUAL WIND CONFERENCE EWEC 2006 (1) - European Wind Energy Conference & Exhibition, Athens, 27th February - 2nd March

Athens, February 27th 2006 — Politicians and key energy representatives attending the European Wind Energy Conference 2006 in Athens (EWEC 2006) welcomed the wind industry’s “No Fuel Solution” (2) manifesto, which outlines how wind energy eliminates the economic impacts and risks associated with volatile and uncertain fuel prices, providing an indigenous and realistic solution to the current European energy crisis.

“Wind power has a unique characteristic: it requires no fuel. Therefore it has zero fuel price risk, zero fuel costs, no external energy dependence and extremely low operation and maintenance costs. Wind is power without fuel. Who can say no to that?”, said **Ian Mays**, Conference Chairman / Managing Director, RES, UK, at the opening of the EWEC 2006 Conference.

The days of cheap and abundantly available conventional energy are over. At a time of rising energy prices, increasing demand, energy supply insecurity and climate change, it is often overlooked that Europe is the world leader in renewable energy technologies, the most promising and mature of which is wind power. Wealthy in wind energy resources, there is enough wind energy available in Europe to power the entire continent.

- EC Commissioner for the Environment **Stavros Dimas** said: *“Wind is one of the fastest growing European technologies and so far it has already created 200,000 jobs. Promoting renewable energy is essential for our future - to preserve the non-renewable resources of the Earth for the future generations, to increase the security of our energy supplies, to actively fight climate change. Wind energy can positively contribute to these goals”.*
- *“By the year 2010, 20.1% of Greece’s energy production will come from clean energy. The creation of a new legal framework in combination with the new spatial planning for the installation of Renewable Energy Sources systems in areas with high energy potential paves the way for large-scale investment”*, said Minister of Development **Dimitris Sioufas**, Greece. *“Greece ranks among the top ten places of the worldwide chart, which classifies countries according to how attractive they are for investments in wind energy. Wind power is a fast-growing energy sector, which boosts the economy and cares for the environment”.*
- *“We are at a defining moment in the history of energy supply, and energy is moving to the top of the political agenda”*, said **Britta Thomsen**, MEP, Vice-Chairwoman of ITRE Committee, European Parliament. *“Today 50% of Europe’s energy needs is presently imported and that share is likely to*

increase to more than 70% within two decades. By 2030, oil imports would rise from 76% to 88% and gas imports from 50% to 81%, compared to 2000. Wind energy, together with other renewable technologies, can provide a significant and secure supply side solution”.

- *“Expanding renewables not only benefits the climate, it also strengthens the economy and creates jobs. Renewable energies, energy efficiency and energy saving are the three pillars of a sustainable energy supply. At the EWEC 2006 today I advocate this path, which reduces our dependency on fuel imports and makes our energy supply more secure”, said **Michael Müller**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Germany.*
- *“With the installation of a record 6,183 MW in Europe in 2005, wind energy has achieved the European Commission’s 40,000 MW target for 2010, five years ahead of time,” said Prof. **Arthouros Zervos**, President of EWEA. “Wind power is on course to become an increasing part of Europe’s power mix. By 2010 the world market for wind power is predicted to double to 16 billion Euros per year. EWEA business forecast sees 180GW of wind generating 12% of Europe’s total TWh requirements for 2020, and delivering 37% of all new EU generation capacity”.*

Notes to Editors:

(1) 2006 European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition will host over 500 oral and poster presentations, 150 companies exhibiting and 1200 delegates have registered to attend.

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(2) Europe’s Energy Crisis - The No Fuel Solution, EWEA briefing February 2006, can be downloaded at

www.no-fuel.org

Wind. Power without fuel:

- no geo-political risk
- no external energy dependence
- no energy imports
- no fuel costs
- no fuel price risk
- no exploration
- no extraction
- no refining
- no pipelines
- no resource constraints
- no CO2 emissions