

Update 1, November 11, 2012

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1. The first edition of our newsletter

The first pan-European ecolabel for electricity is about to be born. This Newsletter will inform you about our first steps.

Since the start of the RES-E process (creating a renewable electricity standard for Europe) openness and transparency have been important guidelines. As we are approaching the moment of take off, there is a growing need to share a lot of information with a growing group of people. We hope this electronic newsletter will be a useful tool for it. The content and design will develop throughout the months. Do you know other people who would be interested? Feel free to forward them this message. Or write to paloma.azcuenaga@sll.fi to have their name on the mailing list.

Feel free to contact us with comments, questions and reactions. Any time.

2. Last week of the public consultation period

The public consultation about our Terms of Reference enters its last week. See www.doyouagreewithus.org. As from next week we will go through the reactions. Our plan is to come up with a new (and likely final) proposal by December 5th.

3. Founding partners of the ecolabel

Soon after the public consultation it is time for a new step: we have to decide about the criteria, and about the path to follow. These decisions will be taken by the founding fathers of the label. Do you want to be amongst them? Let us know! The Interim Agreement for the Set-up of the Organization is now circulating amongst our most active partners. The first three organizations have decided to sign the agreement this week. The organizations are:

Finnish Association for Nature Conservation (Finland), www.sll.fi

Ecoserveis (Spain), www.ecoserveis.net

100 % energia verde (Italy), www.centopercentoverde.org

About 10 others are considering to join in the coming weeks. Stay tuned via our Update.

4. Looking for translators and volunteers.

In 2013 our ecolabel will be available in the whole of Europe. Of course we want to tell as many people as possible who we are, and how they can buy ecolabeled electricity. We are now translating our website and other materials. Let us know if you know people able to help us with that. The source language is English. All help is welcome: from translating short texts, to translating our complete rules and contracts.

5. Anna Rybalova started at the secretariat.

Last week, Anna Rybalova, from Petrozavodsk in Russia, started as an EVS (European Voluntary Service) volunteer at the EKOenergy secretariat. Anna will take care of our contacts in Norway and the Baltics. Anna is the second EVS volunteer at our office. Paloma Azcuenaga from Spain is helping us since mid-September.

Do you know youngsters willing to volunteer in Helsinki? Contact us for more information.

6. Quote of the week

"We therefore feel confident in calling for a moratorium on all forms of electricity generation except on the renewables as the quickest way to lower carbon emissions.", Keith Barnham, Kaspar Knorr, and Massimo Mazzer, in Nature Materials, 11, 908–909 (2012)

This Update is a product of the RES-E Secretariat. Send a mail to paloma.azcuenaga@sll.fi if you don't want to receive it any more.