

Update 2, November 20, 2012

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1. Introduction: preparing for launch

The public consultation phase is over. We got very interesting input and suggestions, about all chapters of the Terms of Reference. Thanks for this. In the next two weeks we are going carefully through the comments. It is still our ambition to get the criteria approved in January 2013.

At the same time we are structuring the coalition of NGOs that will vote about the criteria. The Board will appoint the new Advisory Group. Contact us for more info.

2. Dialogue and communication

We don't want to make early conclusions about the outcome of the public consultation, but it looks like that our "dialogue model" is welcomed by many: we want to brainstorm with other stakeholders (from all European countries!) and even forces, even if this requires compromises. Most also appreciate our focus on the consumer: consumers have the right to know how and where their electricity has been produced.

3. Secretariat visited interested Latvian and Estonian NGOs

The Latvian organizations "Latvian Fund for Nature" and "Green Liberty" are considering to join our coalition. The Estonian Fund for Nature wants to launch our label in Estonia. We met last week in Tartu (Estonia) with all of them, to talk about the criteria and about our partnership.

The Estonian electricity market will open completely in January 2013 and the NGOs will be ready for it.

4. Seminar in Norway

The Norwegian company ECOHZ celebrated its 10th anniversary in style. EKOenergy (RES-E) participated in a panel about 'how corporate consumers can participate in making Guarantees of Origin relevant for financing more renewables production capacity' We also took the opportunity to meet with tens of Norwegian stakeholders.

Congratulations ECOHZ. It was a well organized and interesting event.

5. Other preparations

Apart from writing the criteria text, the secretariat is also drafting the contracts for suppliers willing to sell our labeled electricity. We have about 10 volunteer translators waiting to jump on the texts.

6. Did you know....: residual mix

When creating a market for renewable electricity, it is not enough to focus on the buyers of green electricity. It is also important to address other consumers of electricity: i.e. everybody. Consumer not having a 'specific contract', get the 'residual mix', a mixture of nuclear and fossil, sometimes with a little bit of green. The more green contracts, the dirtier the 'residual mix'. Tell them.

See numbers at http://www.reliable-disclosure.org/upload/147-RE-DISS_2011_Residual_Mix_Results_v1_1.pdf

7. Quote of the week

Capitalists become humanists ('ecologists') in less than 5 seconds if it is profitable. Kjell Anders Nordström (Swedish economist and writer) at the ECOHZ Anniversary party.

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.