

Newsletter



November 2011

Letter from the Publisher:

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Renewable energy... continued: geothermal energy

Geothermal energy is admittedly a renewable form of energy but given that it has been used in so many ways and for so long, it cannot be considered a new energy in industrial terms. However, interest in all forms of geothermal energy is reviving, as is borne out by the fact that around ten conferences and congresses are being held on the subject across Europe in the final quarter of 2011. These events are scheduled to take place in various countries: Austria, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and Switzerland!

The recent interest in geothermal energy comes mainly from the “heat pump” sector, which is experiencing considerable commercial development. We will no doubt be devoting a section of our newsletter to this new market in the not-too-distant future. Today, we are focusing on traditional geothermal energy.

EGEC (European Geothermal Energy Council), through EREC (European Renewable Energy Council), has already been invited to attend some of the events held by our Forum. Between 1998 and 2007, the Forum organised seven events involving geothermal energy, beginning with a seminar on the “European Day of Geothermal Energy” and ending with a visit to the Larderello field in Tuscany (Italy), which is operated by ENEL.

Meanwhile, as part of the Joint Research Programme, the Parliament has regularly supported the “European Deep Geothermal Project” in Soultz-sous-Forêt, about 50 kilometres to the north of Strasbourg, which has led to the construction and operation of an electricity generating plant that came on line in 2008 (<http://www.geothermie-soultz.fr/>).

The company Roquette and the *és* group (électricité de Strasbourg, which developed its know-how at the Soultz-sous-Forêt site) began working together in 2005 and this has just resulted in the establishment of ECOGI (Exploitation de la Chaleur d'Origine Géothermale pour l'Industrie), a company that also includes the Caisse de Dépôt (Deposit Office). ECOGI is to build a thermal generating plant, also in northern Alsace, drilling down to a depth of 2,500 metres, which will generate 24 MW of power using geothermal energy, enough to replace 16 million TOE (tonnes oil equivalent) a year from 2014 onwards.

The “European Deep Geothermal Project” referred to above involved over twenty years of research and development, in particular to ensure that drilling and then injecting cold water does not cause seismic tremors. This has been successfully accomplished and represents worldwide progress in the field. The potential for underground energy exists; it can be exploited with the appropriate research and development work.

Jean-Claude Charrault
Director General



EEF Events

Upcoming events

15 November 2011: Dinner-debate Strasbourg — [Nuclear new build in the EU - going forward the Finnish way](#), at the invitation of Fennovoima Oy

22 November 2011: Dinner-debate Brussels — [Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the EU by 80%: feasible targets, realistic milestones, open technology options](#), at the invitation of EUROGAS

07 December 2011: Dinner-debate Brussels — [IEA World Energy Outlook 2011: what about coal?](#), at the invitation of EURACOAL

13 December 2011: Lunch-debate Strasbourg — [Improving the Energy Efficiency Directive](#), at the invitation of EURELECTRIC

2012



11 January 2012: Dinner-debate in Brussels
Energy storage: the advantages of the fuel cell and hydrogen solution at the invitation of FuelCell Europe

06 February 2012: Dinner-debate in Brussels
Does “one-size-fits-all” bank regulation “fit” the energy sector ? at the invitation of CEZ

27 February 2011: Dinner-debate in Brussels
Is nuclear safe enough? at the Invitation of AREVA

...more to come

Past events

05 October 2011: **Dinner-debate Brussels** — [Renewable Energy Partnership for shared prosperity. Power from the desert - Key contribution towards transforming energy supply in the MENA countries](#)

Introductory remarks :**Michael Koehler**, Head of Cabinet, Cabinet of Commissioner for Energy
Dii GmbH (Desertec Industrial Initiative): **Paul Van Son**, CEO
MEDGRID: **André Merlin**, Chairman, President and CEO of Medgrid



Desertec is a vision, shared by leading scientists and companies, to use the world's deserts to generate energy on a sustainable basis. Working closely with governments and authorities, Dii has set itself the objective of bringing this vision into market reality in Europe, the Middle East

and North Africa. Power generated from renewable energy sources in the deserts shall, thus, serve the local markets and could be exported to Europe. With its 20 shareholders and over 35 associated partners, the industrial initiative Dii has a pioneering and stimulating role to create the right conditions for this to happen. Dii works in close partnership with governments, industries and many others defining strategies and projects which shall bring about greater prosperity and stability in the region.

MEDGRID: The Mediterranean Solar Plan - MSP - is a political initiative which aims at developing 20 GW of new renewable energy in the South and East Mediterranean countries by 2020, out of which some 5 GW would be exported to the EU countries. It will help the EU countries



achieve their objective of renewable electricity; the high price paid in EU will contribute to the funding of the renewable generation and to boosting the economy of the South and East Mediterranean countries. MEDGRID® was created primarily within the frame of the MSP, at the end of 2010, by 20 associate companies, all from the Mediterranean Basin. Its objective is to design, by 2013, the trans-Mediterranean transmission system required for the export



of these 5 GW, and to study its technical, economical and institutional feasibility. Still MEDGRID intend to continue its activities after this term, and to be the architect of the future Mediterranean transmission grid, highway for the exchange of power between both sides of the Mediterranean.

The European Commission, together with the Union for the Mediterranean, may act as facilitator in the transition process. During the debate the speakers and the audience discussed amongst other topics which are the main objectives and how the cooperation between the industrial and public sector should look like.

The presentations are available on the EEF website: please click [here](#)

12 October 2011: [ITAC \(Industrial and Technical Advisory Committee\) Meeting:](#)

The ITAC meeting allows the President, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Board members, Associate Members and EEF secretariat to meet and discuss. This ITAC meeting was an opportunity for EEF Board Members and Associate Members to review the events of 2011 but mainly to make proposals and set the guidelines for events to be organised in 2012. The EEF secretariat already had a number of proposals from its Associate Members and participants discussed how to fit the different themes into the EEF programme.



12 October 2011: Dinner-debate Brussels — [ENTSOG's TYNDP 2011-2020 - There is no such thing as a crystal ball](#), at the invitation of ENTSOG

The speaker was **Stephan Kamphues**, ENTSOG President

Since its first edition in December 2009, ENTSOG's Ten-Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP) has become an integral part of the new gas market environment. As a long-term outlook it has to cope with lots of uncertainties. As a document covering interests of many different stakeholders, it has to maintain a balance and the European perspective.





Every new edition of the TYNDP will bring improvement and slightly different perspective of the future embedded in the used scenarios. This will build a history of futures which will sooner or later be confronted with the reality and will teach us better. Read it as a scientific paper or a detective

story, one thing is clear; it is an outlook not a crystal ball.

The presentations are available on the EEF Website. Please click [here](#)

25 October 2011: Dinner-debate Strasbourg — [Solar Photovoltaics Competing in the Energy Sector](#), at the invitation of EPIA

Speakers: **Ingmar Wilhelm**, EPIA President & Executive Vice-President, Enel Green Power and **Michael T. Eckhart**, Managing Director & Global Head of Environmental Finance and Sustainability, Citigroup



“Solar photovoltaic technology has proven in recent years that, with the appropriate regulatory framework in place, it can be a major contributor to reaching the EU’s target of 20% renewable energy sources by 2020. Technology improvements and economies of scale have spurred steady cost reduction, which will continue in the coming years as the PV industry progresses toward competitiveness with conventional energy sources. But already today, PV electricity is cheaper than many people think. In the coming years the technology will become even more cost-effective and competitive. As a new EPIA study shows, under the right policy and market conditions, PV can be competitive with grid electricity in some markets as early as 2013 and across the continent in different market segments by 2020.”

Reinhold Buttgerit, Secretary General of EPIA

26 October 2011: [EEF Bureau Meeting](#):

President, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents were invited to discuss future EEF events with the EEF secretariat. Participants reviewed the more recent past activities, especially the MEP assistants briefing and discussed about the EEF events in 2012, particularly focusing on proposals for visits and MEP interest and availability in these visits.



Changes in the EEF Associate Members secretariats



AREVA is pleased to announce the appointment of **Magali Smets** as Director of AREVA's Brussels office, Representative to the European Institutions as from 1 October.



Magali Smets holds an engineering degree from the Ecole Centrale Lille and a Master of Science from MIT. After a first experience as a consultant at McKinsey & Co, she joined the strategy department of Alstom T&D. Magali held the position of strategy director of AREVA T&D before joining AREVA Brussels office as Deputy Director. ([AREVA on the EEF website](#))



Viola Rocher has been appointed Senior Manager European Affairs of EnBW Office in Brussels as from 15 October.



Viola Rocher has graduated as a lawyer specialised in European law and brings in several years of experience in the Brussels arena. Most recently, she held for a couple of years the position of Advisor for the German Association of Energy and Water Industries, BDEW, mainly responsible for Renewable Energies, Energy Efficiency as well as Climate and Environmental Policy and Law issues. Previously, she was for nearly one legislative period Head of office of the Chair of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee of the

European Parliament. ([ENBW on the EEF website](#))

European Parliament: Information on the ITRE Committee Secretariat



Prior to the European elections for the 7th Parliamentary term, **Felix Lutz** started working in the Secretariat of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, where he is responsible for energy-related dossiers. He is in charge of providing support to a couple of legislative procedures in the field of energy, mainly falling under the co-decision procedure (energy labelling, oil stocks, energy market transparency and integrity, European Energy Recovery Programme etc...) and assisted the Members of Parliament in charge of the respective file in the process. He also worked on a number of Parliament's own-initiative reports relating to energy efficiency, energy infrastructure, the energy strategy 2020 and the oil challenges. In addition, he is responsible for providing support for his Committee to the Transatlantic Legislative Dialogue with the US and Canada.

Felix Lutz studied political science and public law at the University of Leipzig (Germany), at the University of Marburg (Germany) and at the "Institut d'Études Politiques" in Rennes (France). He holds a Masters degree from the College of Europe (Bruges, Belgium) in EU political and administrative studies.

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In February 2011, **Christophe Lesniak** joined the European Parliament and is in charge with the Energy Team of the Nuclear and Climate Change dossiers in the ITRE Committee.

He has a Doctor-Engineer degree in Computer Science and an MBA and worked in a global geophysical company delivering oil and gas services and in the Aerospace & Space, Defence and Security companies before joining the EC in 1999.

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November events in the European Parliament

Please check the section [Energy News](http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/library/) on <http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/library/> for updates



10/11/2011 - HEARING: [Building European Energy Diplomacy: External Dimension of Energy Security](#)
(EPP)

09:00 – 13:00,

EP Brussels, Room JAN 6Q2

Contact: EPP-energydiplomacyhearing@europarl.europa.eu



29/11/2011 - [15th European Round Table on Coal: Managing Greenhouse Gases in a Low-Carbon Economy](#)

(MEP Christian Ehler)

10:00 – 12:00,

EP Brussels, ASP 5E3

Contact: christian.ehler@europarl.europa.eu, euracoal@euracoal.org



29/11/2011 - [10th STOA Annual Lecture \(2011\) 'Sustainable Management of Natural Resources'](#)
(STOA)

10:30 – 22:00,

EP, Brussels, JAN 4Q2 / Hémicycle (tbc)

Contact: miklos.gyoerffi@europarl.europa.eu



30/11/2011 - [High-Level Dialogue "2011 – 2020 – 2050: Political Perspectives on the Future of European Coal"](#),

(MEP Bogdan Marcinkiewicz and MEP Christian Ehler)

16:00 – 17:30,

EP Brussels, József Antall JAN 6Q1

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