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Letter from: The Danish Permanent Representation to the European Union
To: Secretariat-General
Date: 2 March 2006
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Report on the increase in electricity produced from renewable energy sources

Under Article 3 of Directive 2001/77/EC of 27 September 2001 Member States are required to publish, for the first time not later than 27 October 2003 and thereafter every two years, a report which includes an analysis of success in meeting the national indicative targets for the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. The analysis must take account, in particular, of climatic factors likely to affect the achievement of those targets.

Production of electricity from renewable energy sources

The actual production of energy from renewable sources in 2003 and 2004 and previously reported production is given in the table below.

In 2004, 27.7% of gross electricity consumption was produced from renewable sources, representing an increase of approximately 8 percentage points compared with 2002.

Wind power accounted for the majority of this in 2004 with 18.5%, representing $\frac{2}{3}$ of total electricity production from renewable energy sources. The year was considered relatively normal in terms of the amount of wind.

Unit: GWh	1996	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Wind power	1.227	2.820	4.242	4.299	4.877	5.561	6.583
Hydropower	19	27	29	29	32	21	27
Straw and wood	295	387	387	550	875	1.400	1.834
Biogas	113	190	208	214	233	276	264
Waste ¹	602	666	947	1007	1017	1.177	1.157
Total from renewable sources	2.256	4.090	5.813	6.099	7.033	8.435	9.864
Gross electricity consumption	35.526	34.895	35.111	35.570	35.244	35.191	35.569

¹ Only biodegradable waste is included, in accordance with Article 2(b) of the Directive. 80% of the total waste was considered to be biodegradable, measured in energy content.

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% from renewable sources	6.4	11.7	16.6	17.1	20.0	23.7	27.7

Source: Energy Statistics 2004 produced by the Danish Energy Authority

Expected increase in electricity from renewable energy sources in Denmark

The conditions which most determine the future increase in electricity production from renewable sources in Denmark are listed below.

Wind power:

The number of off-shore wind turbines is being increased, and it is expected that 2 wind farms, each generating 200 MW, will become operational in 2009 and 2010.

The scrapping system, which is currently underway, is expected to result in a further 175 MW of land turbine capacity by 2010.

Overall, in a year with normal wind levels, electricity production from wind power is expected to increase by almost 2 TWh from 2010. This is equivalent to around a 5 percentage point increase in wind power production.

Straw, wood and biogas:

In comparison to 2004, it can be expected that the current reorganisation and planned expansion will lead to an increase of approximately 1 percentage point in the proportion of electricity produced from straw, wood and biogas by 2010.

Waste:

The number of waste-fuelled combined heat and power plants is constantly increasing. The proportion of electricity produced from waste is expected to rise by up to 1 percentage point by 2010.

Achievement of indicative targets up to 2010

When the current expansion projects are complete, it is expected that the proportion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources will have risen from around 28% in 2004 to around 34% after 2010. This estimate is based on a constant level of electricity consumption and normal weather conditions. As wind power is the dominant source, any variation on years with normal wind levels will impact heavily on the actual proportions produced from renewable sources in individual years.

Under the Directive, Denmark's indicative national target for the proportion of electricity produced from renewable sources is 29% in 2010.

For the Ambassador

By order

René Frisdahl Jensen

Economic Affairs Counsellor

