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Report pursuant to the European Directive on renewable electricity (2001/77/EC) (Article 3(3): meeting the national indicative targets)

1. Introduction

With this report, the Dutch Government is fulfilling its obligation under Article 3(3) of Directive 2001/77/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 September 2001 on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal electricity market. Article 3(3) requires Member States 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, taking account, in particular, of climatic factors likely to affect the achievement of those targets, and which indicates to what extent the measures taken are consistent with the national climate change commitment. The report set out below pursuant to Article 3(3) relates to 2007 and 2008 (the previous report under Article 3(3) described the situation in 2005 and 2006).

2. Dutch objectives for renewable electricity and climate protection

The following aspects are relevant:

- for renewable electricity in 2010: a 9 % share of total electricity consumption (as formulated in Directive 2001/77/EC);
- reduction of greenhouse gas emissions: 6% in the period from 2008 to 2012 compared with emissions in 1990 (the Dutch contribution to the apportionment among Member States of the EU commitment on the basis of the Kyoto Protocol to the Convention on Climate Change); a 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 compared with 1990 levels;
- for renewable energy in 2020: a 20% share in 2020 of the total energy consumption (laid down in the 2007 policy document ‘Clean and Economical’).

In general, all measures that contribute to increasing the share of renewable electricity in national electricity supply can also be said to contribute to achieving the climate objective.

3. Production figures for renewable electricity in 2007 and 2008

Production of electricity from renewable energy sources in the Netherlands amounted to 7 149 GWh in 2007 and 8 988 GWh in 2008. Total electricity consumption in 2007 and 2008 was 118 463 GWh and 119 226 GWh respectively. Nationally produced renewable electricity therefore accounted for 6.0% of national consumption in 2007 and 7.5% in 2008. Table 1 gives an overview of the contributions made by the various production techniques for renewable electricity towards overall production for 2000 and 2004-08. The most significant growth is in the use of biomass and wind energy.
Based on current trends, the 9% target is expected to be reached in 2010.

Table 1. Electricity production (GWh) from renewable energy sources in the Netherlands

	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Stochastic energy sources, total	**979**	**1 995**	**2 189**	**2 874**	**3 581**	**4 396**
Hydropower	142	95	88	106	107	102
Wind energy	829	1 867	2 067	2 733	3 438	4 256
Solar energy	8	33	34	35	36	38
Bioenergy, total	**1 201**	**2 470**	**4 311**	**4 132**	**2 827**	**3 239**
Waste incineration	1 003	931	1 001	1 029	1 116	1 058
Biomass incineration	198	1 539	3 310	3 103	1 711	2 181
Others	494	498	520	583	741	1 353
Total national production	**2 674**	**4 963**	**7 020**	**7 589**	**7 149**	**8 988**

(Source: Sustainable energy in the Netherlands 2008; CBS (Statistics Netherlands) 2009)

Reduction in CO_2 emissions

On the basis of the methodology laid down in the Protocol on monitoring sustainable energy, national production of renewable electricity led to a CO_2 emissions reduction of 6.8 MT in 2007 and 7.9 MT in 2008.

Climatological factors

The only climatological factor that might have a significant impact on renewable electricity generation in the Netherlands is the wind supply.

The annual wind supply is recorded using an index which consists of the quotient of the wind supply recorded in one year and the average wind supply (since 1988). In 2007, the wind supply was 105% of this average: index = 105.

In 2008, the wind supply was 104% of this average: index = 104.

(Source: Wind Service Holland)