1405

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE
OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC

VOL. A

No. 129
27th June 2006

Law 3468
Electricity production from renewable energy sources (RES) and high-efficiency cogeneration and other provisions

CHAPTER I
Article 1
Purpose

The provisions of this law (a) transpose 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 (OJ L 283) into Greek law and (b) seek to promote on a preferential basis on the internal electricity market the production of electricity from renewable energy sources and high-efficiency cogeneration plants on the basis of rules and principles.

Article 2
Definitions

For the purposes of this law, the terms used in the provisions of this law shall have the meanings below:

1. License holder: The holder of an electricity production licence for electricity produced from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration.
2. Renewable energy sources (RES): renewable non-fossil energy sources (wind, solar, wave, tidal, biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas and biogases, geothermal, hydropower).
3. Member State Competent Authority: The competent body which is independent of electricity production and distribution activities which has been appointed to oversee the issuance of Guarantees of Origin.
4. Autonomous producer of electricity from RES: The producer producing electricity from RES whose plant is not connected to the System or Grid.
5. Autonomous electricity System on Non-Interconnected Islands: The electricity System which supplies consumers with electricity on one or more islands which are interconnected which is not connected to the Interconnected Grid or System and includes production plants, the low, medium and high voltage Grid, voltage step-down substations and all other equipment needs for its operation.
6. Autonomous producer of electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration: The producer producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration plants, primarily for own use, who channels any excess electricity to the System or Grid.
7. Biofuel: The liquid or gas fuel produced from biomass and in particular:

a) biodiesel (petrol of organic origin); Fatty acid methylesters (FAME) produced

from vegetal or animal oils or fats, of diesel quality, to be used as biofuel.

b) Bioethanol: Ethanol produced from biomass or from the biodegradable fraction of waste, to be used as biofuel.

c) Biogas: The gas fuel produced from biomass or from the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste which can be cleaned and upgraded to natural gas quality, to be used as biofuel or wood gas.

d) Biomethanol: Methanol produced from biomass to be used as biofuel.

e) Biodimethylether: Dimethylether produced from biomass to be used as biofuel.

f) Bio-ETBE: Ethyl-Tertio-Butyl-Ether (ETBE) produced on the basis of bioethanol to be used as biofuel. The percentage by volume of bio-ETBE that is calculated as biofuel is 47 %.

g) Bio-MTBE: Methyl-tertio-butyl-ether (MTBE) produced on the basis of biomethanol to be used as biofuel. The percentage by volume of bio-MTBE that is calculated as biofuel is 36%.

h) Synthetic biofuels: Synthetic hydrocarbons or mixtures of synthetic hydrocarbons which have been produced from biomass.

i) Biohydrogen: Hydrogen produced from biomass or from the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste, to be used as biofuel.

j) Pure vegetable oils: Oils produced from oil plants through pressing, extraction or comparable procedures, crude or refined but chemically unmodified, when compatible with the type of engines or equipment involved and the corresponding emission requirements in line with the relevant legislation.

8. Biomass: The biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues from agriculture (including vegetal and animal substances), forestry and related industries, as well as the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste.

9. Grid: The electricity transmission network of the Public Power Corporation S.A. (PPC S.A.) installed in the Greek state which consists of medium and low voltage lines and electricity transmission facilities and high voltage lines and facilities which have been included in this Grid. The Grid, apart from the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid, is connected to the System via the high and medium voltage substations. The boundary between the System and the Grid is the switch on the high voltage side of the substation's power transformer which constitutes a part of the Grid. For Grid areas where there are high voltage lines, the boundary between the System and the Grid shall be determined by Decision of the Minister for Development on a recommendation from the System Operator and the Grid Operator and an opinion from the Regulatory Authority for Energy (RAE) and the System and Grid owner.

10. Guarantee of origin or Guarantee: A document issued by the issuing body certifying the production of a specific quantity of electricity from RES.

11. RES plant installed capacity: The sum of the nominal capacity of all production plants included at the RES plant. Nominal capacity of each production plant means the maximum plant capacity resulting from the relevant certificates from manufacturers of those plants and bodies competent to certify those plants when the plant is in operation on a continuous basis for a time period of at least 15 minutes.

12. Electricity produced from RES: Electricity produced from RES:

a) electricity plants using one or more forms of RES, or

b) cogeneration facilities using one or more forms of RES, or

c) Hybrid Plants within the meaning on paragraph 25 to the extent that electricity is produced from RES. Such electricity also includes electricity used for filling storage systems where produced from RES, excluding electricity produced at plant storage systems.

13. National electricity consumption: National electricity production, including autoproduction, plus imports, minus exports (gross national electricity consumption).

14. Maximum RES plant production capacity: The electricity which a RES plant is permitted to provide as a maximum to its point of connection with the Grid. The maximum production capacity may be exceeded by 5% where this exceedance occurs

infrequently within the provisions of the Production Licence Regulations provided for by Article 5(3). For the purpose of checking such exceedances, maximum capacity is considered to be the average capacity from measurements taken during a time period of 15 minutes.

15. Non-Interconnected Islands: Islands within the Greek State whose electricity transmission Grid is not connected to the System and Transmission Grid on the mainland.

16. Assurance mechanism: The mechanism used by the control body to ensure the reliable operation of the Guarantee System and the accuracy and validity of Guarantees provided.

17. Directive: 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

18. Producer of electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration: The producer who produces electricity from renewable energy sources (RES) or high-efficiency cogeneration.

19. Cogeneration: The simultaneous generation in one process of thermal energy and electrical and/or mechanical energy.

20. High-efficiency cogeneration: Cogeneration which provides primary energy savings of at least 10 % compared in relation to separate production of heat and electricity as well as production from small scale and micro cogeneration units providing primary energy savings regardless of the degree of energy savings. Primary energy savings shall be calculated, where required, in accordance with paragraph (b) of Annex III to Directive 2004/8/EC (OJ L 52).

21. Small scale cogeneration: A cogeneration unit with an installed capacity below 1 MWe.

22. Micro-cogeneration unit: A cogeneration unit with a maximum capacity below 50 kWe.

23. System: The high voltage lines installed within the Greek State, interconnections (on land or sea) and all related facilities, equipment and control facilities required for the problem-free, safe and uninterrupted transmission of electricity from a production plant to a substation, from a substation to another substation or from or to any interconnection. The System does not include electricity production plants, high voltage lines and facilities included in the Grid and the Non-Interconnected Island Grid.

24. Guarantee System: All rules and procedures laid down by this law and the regulatory provisions issued pursuant to it for the purpose of issuing Guarantees of Origin of electricity produced from renewable energy sources.

25. Hybrid plant: Any electricity production plant which:

a) uses at least one form of RES,

b) whose total electricity absorbed from the Grid on an annualised basis does not exceed 30% of the total electricity consumption for filling storage systems at that plant. Electricity absorbed by the Hybrid Plant from the Grid for the purposes of the previous paragraph means the difference between the electricity measured upon entering the plant and the electricity conveyed directly to the Grid by the Hybrid Plants RES units. This difference is calculated, for Non-Interconnected Islands, on an hourly basis. If for the purpose of capturing solar energy a technology other than photovoltaic cells is used, conventional electricity may be used not absorbed by the Grid where use of such electricity is considered necessary to utilise solar energy. Use of conventional energy shall not exceed 10% of the total electricity produced on an annualised basis by solar energy units.

c) The maximum production capacity of RES plant units may not exceed the installed capacity of storage units at that plant augmented by up to 20%.

26. Issuing bodies: The bodies defined in Article 16(1).

27. Control body: The body defined in Article 16(2).

28. In all other respects, for the purposes of applying the provisions of this law, the definitions contained in the provisions of Law 2773/1999 (Government Gazette 286/A) as in force shall apply as well as the relevant provisions of the legislation and regulatory decisions issued pursuant to them.

CHAPTER II
ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION LICENSE

Article 3
Production License

1. A license shall be required to produced electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration.

This license shall be issued by the Minister for Development where an opinion from RAE has been obtained, based on the following criteria:

a) National security

b) Protection of public health and security;

c) General safety of the System and Grid facilities and equipment

d) The energy efficiency of the project for which the application has been lodged. Such efficiency shall be calculated for RES projects from RES potential measurements and for high-efficiency cogeneration units based on their energy balance. In relation to wind energy potential in particular, the measurements submitted shall have been taken by certified bodies in accordance with the DIN-EN ISO/IEC 17025/2000 standard in force from time to time.

e) The maturity of the project implementation procedure based on studies prepared, opinions from competent bodies and other related data.

f) Whether the location at which the project is to be installed has been secured or can be secured.

g) The applicant's ability to implement the project based on its financial, scientific and technical qualifications. Where in particular the applicant is a legal person, this ability shall be evaluated for the natural persons participating in it as partners or shareholders.

h) Whether public utility services and consumer protection can be assured.

i) Environmental protection in accordance with the relevant legislation and the special planning and sustainable development framework for RES.

2. Before issuing its opinion to the Minister for Development, RAE may work with the System, Grid or Non-Interconnected Island Grid Operator to determine the manner and point of connection between the plant and the System or Grid.

RAE shall examine whether the criteria in paragraph 1 (a) to (h) are met and before expressing an opinion shall dispatch the environmental impact assessment (EIA), in cases where this is required pursuant to the relevant provisions, to the authority competent for environmental authorisation. This authority shall issue an opinion on the preliminary environmental impact assessment (PEIA) and dispatch its opinion to RAE within 60 days from the date on which the EIA dossier is complete.

Notwithstanding issuance of a positive opinion in accordance with the previous indent, RAE shall submit its opinion to the Minister for Development within 4 months from notification of the application to it in accordance with the provisions of the Decision issued in line with Article 5(1) and (3) where the applicant's dossier is complete or from the date on which the dossier becomes complete, where that occurs following notification, in accordance with the same decision.

The Minster of Development shall issue a decision on this matter within 15 days from receiving the opinion from RAE.

3. The licence to produce electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration shall include the following information:

a) Its holder (producer or autoproducer), whether a natural or legal person;

b) The location of the electricity production plant;
c) The installed capacity and maximum production capacity;
d) The technology or form of RES used, if issued for a RES plant;
e) Its effective term;
f) The person or persons who have the financial standing to finance and implement the project.

4. The production licence shall be issued for a period of up to 25 years which may be renewed for a period of equal length. If within 24 months, and in the case of paragraph 9 within 36 months, from issuance of the production licence an installation licence has not been issued, the production licence shall be withdrawn.

This period of 24 months shall not be taken as including:

a) The time during which enforcement of any license or approval required to obtain the installation license has been suspended by the courts.

b) Any delay in obtaining the installation licence where the delay can proven not to be due to failure or any form of fault on the part of the production licence holder.

In these cases the period of 24 months may be extended on a request from the license holder submitted before that time limit expires for such time as the grounds cited above continue to exist.

Amendment of the production licence due to changes in the shareholder line-up of its holder or of the installed or maximum capacity, or transfer of the licence to another person do not constitute grounds for extending the aforementioned period.

5. The licence for the production of electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration may be amended by decision of the Minister for Development, provided an opinion is obtained from RAE, where its holder has submitted a request to this effect. The production licence may be amended where the particulars referred to in paragraph 3 change with the exception of (e) in that paragraph.

No amendment to the electricity production licence is required:

a) Where the installed capacity or maximum production capacity of an electricity production plant connected to the System or the Interconnected Grid changes, once only, by up to 10% without this change being due to a change in its surface area. In this case the installation licence cited in Article 8 shall be amended after the plant's connection terms are reformulated by the System or Grid Operator. These provisions shall not apply to areas with saturated Grids. The ability for capacity to be absorbed in areas with saturated Grids shall be ascertained by decision of RAE on a recommendation from the System or Grid Operator. This decision shall be made public by RAE on the internet or using any other reasonable means.

b) Where the licence holder’s place of residence or registered offices change.

In cases where no amendment to the production licence is required, the holder shall inform RAE and the Minister for Development of the relevant changes. Where the licence holder fails to make such disclosure, the sanctions specified in Article 22 shall be imposed.

In order to amend the production licence, RAE shall submit its opinion to the Minister for Development within 60 days from publication of the application in accordance with the provisions of the Decision issued in line with Article 5(1) and (3) where the applicant’s dossier is complete, or from the date on which the dossier becomes complete, where that occurs following notification, in accordance with the same decision.

c) If the changes to production licence data specified in paragraph 3 do not effect evaluation of the criteria laid down in paragraph 1.

6. The production licence holder may transfer its licence to another person where the criteria in paragraph 1 are met.

7. When issuing production licences for RES on Non-Interconnected Islands or in areas with saturated Grids or other existing constraints on the establishment of RES plants, applications for autoproduction of electricity from RES shall be met, on a preferential basis in relation to other applications for the production of electricity from

RES.

8. Issuance of a production licence for electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration shall not release its holder from the obligation to obtain all other licences or approvals required by the relevant legalisation such as environmental terms approval and installation and operating licences. Issuance of the production licence is a condition for submitting an application for approval of environmental terms. Before the production licence is issued competent services may examine applications for opinions on the establishment of electricity production plants requested in the context of the environmental authorisation procedure in line with the relevant provisions.

9. In assessing applications for production licences for RES or high-efficiency cogeneration submitted by legal persons, whose share capital is held by at least 20 people, each of whose holding in the share capital is up to € 100,000 maximum, the following terms shall apply:

a) The applicant's financial ability to implement the project in paragraph 1(g) shall be set at a figure lower than that specified in the decision of the Minister for Development issued in accordance with Article 5(3). This figure may not be 15% less than the budgeted cost for constructing the project.

b) The participation, in the legal person, of natural persons who are citizens of the local government authority at primary or secondary level or of corporations established by the said authorities or local associations or non-profit organisations whose registered offices are within the administrative boundaries of the relevant local government authority where the project is to be established shall be taken into account.

10. When evaluating applications for production licences and when checking compliance with the terms included in those licences, RAE may collaborate with the Hellenic Centre for Renewable Energy Sources in the context of an agreement with that body to provide technical consultancy services under its supervision and guidance.

Article 4
Exceptions to the obligation to obtain a production licence

1. Persons producing electricity from plants established on a property or nearby properties of which they are owners or are in possession of are exempted from the obligation to obtain a production licence where the electricity is produced:

a) from geothermal energy by plants with an installed capacity of 0.5 MWe or less.

b) from the use of biomass or biofuels by plants with an installed capacity of 100 MWe or less.

c) from photovoltaic systems by plants with an installed capacity of less than or equal to 150 MWe.

d) from wind energy by plants with an installed capacity of less 20 kWe or less where these plants are installed in isolated small networks as defined in Article 2 of Law 2773/1999, or by plants with an installed capacity of 40 kWe or less where these plants are installed on other Non-Interconnected Islands, and with an installed capacity of 50 kWe or less where these plants are installed on the Interconnected System.

e) By plants with an installed capacity of up to 5 MWe installed by educational or research bodies in the public or private sector for such time as those plants are exclusively operated for educational or research purposes.

f) By plants installed by the Hellenic Centre for Renewable Energy Sources (CRES) for such time as those plants are operated for the purpose of certification or measurement.

g) By other with an installed capacity of less than or equal to 50 kWe where those plants use RES from among those defined in Article 2(2) in a form different than that cited in the cases above.

The exceptions in cases (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (g) shall apply where the Grids are

not saturated in line with an RAE decision issued in accordance with Article 3(5)(a).

2. Instances of exemptions from the obligation to hold a production licence shall be ascertained by decision of RAE issued within 10 working days from submission of an application, where that application is accompanied by all the necessary data, or from the date on which that information is supplemented.

This decision is not required for plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration with an installed capacity of up to 20 kWe unless they are plants installed on Non-Interconnected Islands where the Grid is saturated, which shall be ascertained by decision of RAE issued in accordance with Article 3(5)(a). The persons responsible for operating plants for which no decision is issued in accordance with the previous indent shall be obliged, before establishing the plants, to inform the competent Operator about the location, capacity and technology used by those plants. Should such person fail to make such disclosure, the plant shall be deemed to be operating illegally. The competent Operator shall inform the Minister for Development and RAE at the end of each 2-month period about the establishment of such plants.

3. Furthermore, autonomous plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration not connected to the System or Grid with an installed capacity of 5 MWe or less are excluded from the obligation to hold a production licence. In the case of autonomous plants with an installed capacity of up to 50 kW no declaratory decision from RAE in accordance with paragraph 2 is required.

4. Following a licence holder request, the competent Operator is obliged to take the steps necessary to connect plants referred to in paragraph 1 to the System or Interconnected Grid or Non-Interconnected Island Grid unless it is proven that there are technical grounds which justify refusal of such connection within the provisions of the relevant management codes. The title deeds of the owner of the plant site as well as a building permit for that site for any buildings necessary should be submitted together with the application submitted in line with the previous indent.

Article 5
Licensing Regulations – Disclosure – Register – Control

1. In order to obtain the production licence or to amend or withdraw it, an application shall be lodged with RAE accompanied by the documents set out in the decision issued pursuant to paragraph 3. A copy of the applicant and accompanying documents as well as all other later documents submitted to RAE shall be dispatched by the applicant to the Minister for Development. By means of decision issued in accordance with paragraph 3, the particulars of the application and the RAE opinion evaluating the application, and the particulars of the application and its opinion made public by it on the internet or in any other reasonable manner shall be laid down.

The RAE opinion shall be accompanied by a report justifying the application of the criteria cited in Article 3(1).

2. RAE shall keep a special RES or high-efficiency cogeneration electricity production register. This register shall be used to record the particulars of licences cited in Article 3(3), licence-holding exemption decisions, licence transfers, amendments and all other changes to licence particulars for which amendment is not required in accordance with Article 3(5).

The content of such register shall be notified by RAE to the competent Operators and the Minister for Development at the end of each 2-month period using electronic or other reasonable means. Any change in those particulars shall be notified by the licence holder to RAE and the Minister for Development without undue delay. Where the changes in the particulars posted to the register do not involve amendment of the production licence, RAE shall issue a certificate to that effect.

3. The RES and High-Efficiency Cogeneration Electricity Production Licences Regulations shall be approved by means of the decision of the Minister for

Development issued once an opinion from RAE has been obtained and published in the Government Gazette. These Regulations shall:

a) Set forth the criteria adopted in Article 3(1) and lay down a methodology for implementing them.

b) Set forth the procedure for submitting applications for production licences and the accompanying documents and for evaluation of those applications, the procedure for submitting and examining objections to applications lodged, exemptions to the obligation to hold a production licence and the procedure for amending and transferring production licences and all other related matters and modalities.

c) Set forth the specific obligations of licence holders, the procedure for monitoring and checking compliance with the terms of production licence and related obligations and the licence withdrawal procedure.

d) Specify the cases where no amendment to the production licence in accordance with the provisions of Article 3(5)(c) is required.

4. RAE may issue a decision laying down details on technical issues and specific matters concerning the method and procedure for evaluating applications submitted for production licences.

Article 6
Production licences for RES Hybrid Plants

1. For the purpose of installing and including RES Hybrid Plants in the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid and to operate those plants, the provisions of Articles 3, 4 and 5 shall apply by analogy. Applications for a production licence for electricity from Hybrid Plants shall be accompanied by a detailed study setting out the inclusion method and modus operandi of the Hybrid Plants in the power Grid of the Non-Interconnected Islands on an annualised basis, the guarantee capacity supply obligation and the operating terms and conditions. Guaranteed capacity shall mean the maximum capacity which the Hybrid Plant undertakes to make available to the Grid during specific time periods. Applications submitted shall also include a proposed tariff plan for capacity availability at the Hybrid Plants controlled production units, whose electricity produced is absorbed by the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid and for the electricity absorbed by the plant from the Grid to fill its storage systems. Tariff proposals shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Article 13(3).

2. When evaluating the applications submitted, RAE shall take into consideration the criteria specified in Article 3(1) as well as the cost of producing electricity at the Hybrid Plant in accordance with the proposal submitted, and the reduction in electricity produced by conventional units due to replacement by electricity produced by RES units on an annualised basis of Non-Interconnected Islands Autonomous Power system operation.

3. Technical and other issues necessary for preparing the study referred to in paragraph 1 shall be laid down by RAE for each Non-Interconnected Islands and shall be notified by the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid Operator to each party interested in installing a Hybrid Plant. In order to promote the installation of Hybrid Plants on Non-Interconnected Islands and supported the parties concerned, RAE may prepare and make available to them every two years a study including the necessary information and all useful data about the potential for developing Hybrid Plants on each island, the recommended technologies, the type and size of units comprising the Hybrid Plant, based on the specific features of the power System, and the cost of producing electricity for each Non-Interconnected Islands Autonomous Power System.

4. The production licence for electricity from Hybrid Plants shall set out in detail the terms of the contract of sale of electricity produced by the Hybrid Plant to the Non-Interconnected Islands Operator and the absorption terms of electricity needed by the Grid. This licence shall also set out the period during which the plant is obliged to provide guaranteed capacity.

5. The holder of a production licence for electricity from an RES Hybrid Plant installed on a Non-Interconnected Island is obliged to sell the electricity produced to the Non-Interconnected Islands Operator only which is obliged within the time limits specified in the production licence to enter into the relevant contracts with the licence holder, including the contract for the sale of electricity referred to in Article 12(2).

6. In order to obtain a production licence for electricity from Hybrid Plants installed on the System or on an Interconnected Grid the procedure outlined in Articles 3, 4, and 5 shall apply by analogy.

7. Hybrid plants with guaranteed capacity availability may procure electricity from the Grid or System in quantities considered necessary to ensure their capacity availability without prejudice to the constraints laid down in Article 25(2)(b).

CHAPTER III
INSTALLATION OF PLANTS PRODUCING ELECTRICITY FROM RES AND HIGH-EFFICIENCY COGENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICITY

Article 7
Installation and operation of plants producing electricity from RES and high-efficiency cogeneration

Plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration and any project associated with their construction and operation, including the construction of access roads and projects to connect them to the System or Grid, mayl be installed and operated:

a) on a plot or area which the applicant is lawfully entitled to use;

b) in forests or forested areas where the implementation of projects has been permitted in accordance with Articles 45 and 58 of Law 998/1979 (Government Gazette 289/A) as in force or Article 13 of Law 1734/1987 (Government Gazette 189/A) as in force;

c) on the foreshore, in the sea or on the seabed, where usage rights have been assigned pursuant to Article 14 of Law 2971/2001 (Government Gazette 285/A), as in force.

Article 8
Installation and operating licences

1. A license shall be required to install or extend a plant producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration. This licence shall be issued in the form of a decision of the General Secretary of the Region within which the plant is established for all projects falling within sub-category 2 of Category A and sub-categories 3 or 4 of Category B referred to in the provisions of Article 3 of Law 1650/1986 (Government Gazette 160/A) as in force, and the regulatory decisions issued pursuant to it. The installation licence shall be issued within a fixed time limit of 15 days from submission of an application by the party concerned accompanied by the supporting documents as determined by the procedure set out in paragraph 10. Where the General Secretary of the Region does not issue the installation licence within the time limit set out in the previous indent, the Minister for Development shall be responsible for issuing such licence, to whom the party concerned should submit an application and the relevant dossier and the environmental terms approval decision or attested copies thereof. The Minister for Development shall issue the installation licence within 30 days of receipt of the said documents. For the purpose of issuing installation licenses the Minister for Development shall be provided with secretarial, technical and scientific support by CRES in return for a fee which shall be determined by means of joint decision of the Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance and Development.

2. The installation licence for a plant producing electricity from RES or

high-efficiency cogeneration which falls within sub-category 1 of category A and for all RES projects constructed in RAMSAR and Natura 2000 protected areas, national parks or forests of outstanding natural beauty, regardless of the categorisation of the projects under the provisions of Article 3 of Law 1650/1986 and the regulatory decisions issued pursuant to it, shall be issued by means of joint decision of the Minister for Development and the other competent minister as appropriate in accordance with the procedure outlined in the previous paragraph and within a time limit of 30 days.

3. For the issue of an installation licence for a plant producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration connected to the System, Grid or Non-Interconnected Islands Grid, the additional terms and conditions set out in the Management Codes on the connection of plants must also be complied with.

A summary of the installation licence shall be published by its holder in at least one daily newspaper published in Athens and in one local newspaper in the region in which the plant is to be established.

4. The installation licence shall be valid for 2 years and may be extended by a maximum period of one year on a request from the holder where:

a) at the end of the two-year period work has been carried out, the cost of which amounts to at least 50% of the investment,

or

b) work has not commenced on grounds which are proven not to be due to the omission or any kind of fault of the installation licence holder, on condition that the necessary contracts have been concluded for the supply of the equipment required to implement the project. The conclusion of the contracts referred to in the previous indent is not required where the installation licence has been suspended by the courts.

5. An operating licence is also required in order to operate the plants referred to in paragraph 1. This licence shall be issued in the form of a decision of the body competent for granting the installation licence on a request from the party concerned after an inspection by the competent bodies of whether the technical terms of installation have been complied within during trial operation of the plant and an inspection by CRES to ensure that the plant’s equipment has the necessary functional and technical features. The operating licence shall be issued within a fixed time limit of 15 days from completion of these inspections where the results thereof are positive.

6. The operating licence for plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration shall be valid for at least 20 years and may be renewed for an equal period. Granting of the operating licence does not release its holder from the obligation to obtain or renew any other licences required by the relevant provisions of the legislation in force.

Where ownership of the plant is transferred, the new owner shall assume the rights and obligations of the assignor with respect to the System or Grid Operator. Where ownership of the plant is transferred, the production licence shall also be transferred to the new owner, after obtaining the opinion of the RAE. Following such transfer, the operating licence shall be amended by the competent body to reflect the name of the plant's new owner.

7. Environmental terms approval for the installation of plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration shall be valid for 10 years and may be renewed, one or more times, for an equal period.

8. In the case of plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration exempted from the obligation to hold a production licence in accordance with the provisions of Article 4, no installation or operating licence shall be required. However, environmental authorisation shall be required in all events for such plants in accordance with the relevant legislation.

9. The competent department of the Ministry of Development shall keep a register of installation and operating licences for plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration. This register shall be used to record the installation and

operating licences and cases of exemption from the obligation to hold such licences. Where the production licence is amended or transferred, the register shall be duly updated and the amendment decision posted to it where appropriate. The method of organising, keeping and updating the register and all other specific issues and modalities shall be laid down by means of decision of the Minister for Development.

10. The supporting documents required, procedures and all modalities relating to issuance of the licences provided for by this Article shall be laid down by decision of the Minister for Development.

Article 9
Inclusion of RES or high-efficiency cogeneration plants in the System or Interconnected Grid

1. In the case of plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration connected to the System or Grid, apart from the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid, where there is no risk to the safety of the System or Grid, the competent System or Grid Operator is obliged, when allocating load, to give priority to:

a) available production facilities at which electricity is produced from RES regardless of their installed capacity and to hydroelectric units with an installed capacity of up to 15 Mwe;

b) available production facilities at which electricity is produced by high-efficiency cogeneration plants using RES or by high-efficiency cogeneration plants using RES in combination with gaseous fuels, regardless of their installed capacity;

c) available production facilities at which electricity is produced by high-efficiency cogeneration plants in a manner other than that specified in (b) above. In this case, priority shall be afforded to production facilities with an installed capacity of up to 35 MWe.

2. Priority afforded in accordance with the provisions of the previous paragraph shall also apply to excess electricity from autoproducers where the excess is produced by high-efficiency cogeneration plants in accordance with the provisions of case (c) of the previous paragraph with a maximum installed capacity of up to 35 MWe, and for that part of the electricity produced which does not exceed 20%, on an annualised basis, of the total electricity produced which in all events may not be greater than 50 000 MWh. Where the autoproducer produces electricity using RES or high-efficiency cogeneration within the meaning of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of the previous paragraph, priority shall be afforded to electricity production facilities with a total installed capacity of up to 35 MWe.

3. When distributing load in accordance with paragraph 1, the System or Grid Operator shall provide RES units at the Hybrid Plant connected to the System directly or via the Grid with the priority afforded to RES plants which are not part of a Hybrid Plant in accordance with paragraph 1(a). If for reasons of safe operation of the System or Grid it becomes impossible to include these Hybrid Plant RES units, priority for Hybrid Plant RES Units shall be afforded for that part of capacity absorbed by the System or Grid to operate the Hybrid Plants storage units operating at the same distribution time. This figure shall be set out in the Hybrid Plant’s production licence.

4. Hybrid Plant controlled production units which use the stored electricity in that plant's storage system shall be included in the System in accordance with the provisions of the System Management Code which apply in each case to hydroelectric plants with an installed capacity of over 15 MWe.

5. In order to fill the Hybrid Plant storage system, electricity may be absorbed from the System or Interconnected Grid where a load declaration is submitted to the System Operator in accordance with the provisions of the System Management Code which apply in each case to hydroelectric plants with an installed capacity of over 15 MWe.

6. The terms, conditions and procedure and all necessary modalities relating to priority in allocating load to production facilities in accordance with the previous

paragraphs shall be set out in the System Management Code.

Article 10
Inclusion of RES or high-efficiency cogeneration plants on Non-Interconnected Islands

1. On Non-Interconnected Islands the competent Operator is obliged to absorb on a preferential basis electricity produced by the RES plant of a producer or autoproducer and from Hybrid Plant RES units and consequently excess electricity produced by an autoproducer from a high-efficiency cogeneration plant.

2. In allocating load, the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid Operator shall afford priority in accordance with the previous paragraph to Hybrid Plant units producing electricity from RES compared to other RES units only where electricity is stored at the Hybrid Plant production unit. In this case priority shall be afforded up to the level of capacity absorbed by the grid to fill the storage system of a Hybrid Plant connected to the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid. This figure shall be set out in the production licence and in determining this percentage regard shall be had to the recommendation made by the Non-Interconnected Islands Operator.

The Non-Interconnected Islands Grid Operator in allocating load shall afford priority to controlled production units to utilise Hybrid Plant stored electricity compared to conventional units at the same plant.

3. The terms, conditions and procedure and all necessary modalities relating to the absorption of electricity from production facilities by the Non-Interconnected Islands Operator in accordance with the provisions of the previous Article shall be set out in the Non-Interconnected Islands Management Code.

Article 11
Connection of plants producing electricity from RES to the System or Grid

1. Where a new plant producing electricity from RES is connected to the System or Grid via a medium to high voltage step-up substation located outside the plant, the production licence holder for the connected plant may construct the connection projects from the boundary of the plant to the System or Grid boundary in accordance with Article 2(4) of Law 2941/2001 and acquire management of those works in accordance with the terms of the relevant Management Codes. In order to compulsorily purchase land or establish rights in re in favour of the production licence holder for that connected plant in respect of such land in order to install the connection projects, the provisions of Article 15 of Law 3175/2003 (Government Gazette 207/A) shall apply by analogy. In all other respects, the provisions of Article 9(8) of Law 2941/2001 shall apply by analogy to the production licence holder. The approvals required to install the connection projects in accordance with the previous indents shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of the relevant legislation relating to the owner of the System or Grid applied by analogy.

2. For the purpose of constructing the connection projects the production licence holder shall prepare a design in line with the connection terms and specifications laid down by the Operator who shall also approve such design. Before approving such design the relevant Operator shall inform the relevant first level local government authority of the key aspects of the design relating to siting of the connection projects so as to inform the owners of real estate properties on which those works are to be installed. If another user connects to the connection projects, management of that part of those works used by it shall be assigned by the licence holder of the RES plant to the competent Operator who has assumed all relevant rights and obligations. In this case ownership of the site occupied by the connection projects for that specific section and the relevant connection projects shall be transferred to the owner of the Grid who shall

pay the relevant consideration to the owner of the site. The new user shall pay the connected plant's production licence holder consideration which shall be set and paid in accordance with the provisions of the System Management and Power Transactions Code for implementing extension works to ensure connection. Consideration for use of the site relating to connection projects shall not be payable in accordance with the foregoing terms where the owner of the site is the State. The System and Grid Management Codes provided for by the provisions of Articles 19 and 23 of Law 2773/1999, as in force, respectively, shall, where a recommendation is made by the competent Operator and the consent of RAE obtain, lay down the procedure and criteria for setting the consideration to be paid for transfer of ownership of the site and connection projects and all other related matters and modalities for the purposes of implementing the provisions of the paragraph. The same Codes shall also specify the format and content of the RES Plant connection agreements with the System or Grid and all other related issues and modalities.

3. The method of construction and operation of connection projects for Non-Interconnected Islands to connect RES plants to the System and the allocation of expenditure based on plant installed capacity in relation to total interconnection transmission capacity shall be laid down by means of decision of the Minister for Development which approves the System Development Study referred to in Article 15(2) of Law 2773/1999.

Article 12
Contracts of sale

1. In order to include plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration in the System or Grid, including Non-Interconnected Islands Grids, in accordance with Articles 9 and 10, the System Operator, where facilities for producing electricity are connected to the System directly or via the Grid, or the Non-Interconnected Islands Operator, where production facilities are connected to the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid, is obliged to enter into contracts for the sale of electricity with the production licence holder.

2. Contracts for the sale of electricity shall be valid for 10 years and may be extended for 10 additional years unilaterally by means of written statement from the producer provided such statement is submitted at least 3 months before expiry of the initial contract. The contract for the sale of electricity produced by Hybrid Plants shall be valid for 20 years and may be extended, in accordance with the terms of that plant’s licence, following written agreement between the parties where the production licence remains in effect.

3. The format, content and procedure for entering into contracts for the sale of electricity in accordance with the terms of this article and all related matters and modalities shall be laid down by means of decision of the Minister for Development on a recommendation from the competent Operator, where RAE has provided an opinion on the matter.

CHAPTER IV
ELECTRICITY BILLING

Article 13
Billing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration plants and from Hybrid Plants

1. Electricity produced by a producer or autoproducer from a plants producing

electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration or a Hybrid Plant which is absorbed by the System or Grid in accordance with the provisions of Articles 9, 10 and 12 shall be billed, each month, in accordance with the following terms:

a) Billing shall be done on the basis of the price in euro per MWh of electricity absorbed by the System or Grid, including the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid.

b) Billing of electricity in accordance with the previous sub-paragraph shall be done based on the particulars contained in the following table:

Electricity produced from:	Electricity price (€/MWh)	
	Interconnected System	Non-Interconnected Islands
(a) Wind power	73	84.6
(b) Wind power from sea wind farms	90	
(c) Hydropower used by small hydroelectric plants with an installed capacity of up to 15 MWe	73	84.6
(d) Solar power used by photovoltaic units with an installed capacity of 100 kW or less installed on property belonging to or lawfully held by, or on neighbouring properties, of the same owner or lawful holder.	450	500
(e) Solar power utilising photovoltaic units with an installed capacity greater than 100 kW peak.	400	450
(f) Solar power utilising technologies other than photovoltaic units with an installed capacity of up to 5 MWe.	250	270
(g) Solar power utilising technologies other than photovoltaic units with an installed capacity over 5 MWe.	230	250
(h) Geothermal power, biomass, landfill gas, biological treatment gas and biogas.	73	84.6
(i) Other RES	73	84.6
(j) High-efficiency cogeneration	73	84.6

The prices in the table above for autoproducers of electricity only apply for RES and high-efficiency cogeneration plants with an installed capacity of up to 35 MW for excess electricity sold to the System or Grid which may be up to 20% of the total electricity produced by those plants on an annualised basis.

2. In particular, electricity produced by plants connected to the low voltage grid shall be billed every 4 months.

3. For the purpose of billing the capacity availability of Hybrid Plants connected to the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid, the electricity absorbed by those plants from the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid and the electricity which Hybrid Plants inject to that Grid, the following terms shall apply:

a) Capacity availability of controlled production units of Hybrid Plants connected

to the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid shall be billed each month in euro per megawatt (€/MW) of guaranteed capacity). Guaranteed capacity, time periods and the price at which capacity availability is billed shall be specified in the Hybrid Plant's production licence. In billing capacity availability, regard shall be had to the estimated cost of constructing and the fixed operating costs of new conventional production plants to the Non-Interconnected Islands Autonomous Power System. The price received by the producer for making Hybrid Plant controlled production units available may not be less than the price paid for making a new conventional production plant with the same capacity available.

New conventional production plant on the Non-Interconnected Islands Autonomous Power System means a plants producing electricity using conventional fuels deemed to have been built at the time the application for the Hybrid Plant production licence is being examined, for the purpose of uninterrupted supply of electricity to the Non-Interconnected Islands in accordance with the provisions of the Non-Interconnected Islands Management Code.

b) The price at which electricity produced by the controlled production units of Hybrid Plants which utilise the stored electricity in the storage system and injected to the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid is billed shall be set out in the Hybrid Plant production licence. This price shall be set based on the average marginal variable cost of producing electricity which conventional units in the Autonomous Power System are estimated as having at the time the production licence is issued to cover the electricity requested by the Non-Interconnected Island and which is covered, in the specific case, by the above Hybrid Plant controlled production units. The price determined in the first indent may not be lower than the price at which electricity absorbed by the Hybrid Plant from the Grid to fill its storage system is billed, augmented by 25%.

c) The price at which all electricity absorbed by the Hybrid Plant from the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid to fill its storage system is billed shall be set out in the Hybrid Plant production licence. This price shall be set based on the average variable cost of production for base units in the Non-Interconnected Islands Autonomous Power System.

d) All electricity which Hybrid Plant RES units inject directly to the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid shall be billed in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 depending on the type of RES plant.

e) Electricity produced by Hybrid Plant RES units and injected directly to the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid may be offset against electricity absorbed from the Grid by that Hybrid Plant to fill its storage system. Offset rights shall be recognised upon request made by the producer and shall be set out in the production licence when such licence is issued or amended. In this case billing in cases (c) and (d) shall relate to the electricity estimated as having been absorbed or injected to the Grid after the said offset, in the manner expressly cited in the relevant production licence.

4. Where the Non-Interconnected Islands is interconnected to the System the contracts for the sale of electricity which had been entered into between the Non-Interconnected Islands Operator and the producer shall remain in effect but may not be renewed.

5. The procedure, specific issues and all modalities on billing in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article shall be laid down by means of decision issued in accordance with Article 5(3).

6. The prices in the table in paragraph 1 shall be adjusted each year by decision of the Minister for Development issued after an opinion has been obtained from RAE. The basis for adjustment shall be taken as the weighted change in Public Power Corporation (PPC) S.A. approved tariffs. Weighted change in PPC S.A. tariffs means the average of individual approved changes per tariff category, duly weighted, depending on the electricity consumed in the previous year depending on the tariff type.

If PPC S.A. tariffs do not require approval in accordance with the relevant

legislation, the paragraph 1 table prices shall be adjusted by decision of the Minister for Development by 80% of the consumer price index announced by the Bank of Greece. Adjustments shall be applied uniformly and shall apply for all prices in the table.

7. The price of electricity produced or absorbed by a RES Hybrid Plant and the price for capacity availability for that plant, based on the price setting data in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (3)(a), (b) and (c), may be adjusted each year by means of decision of the Minister for Development following an opinion from the RAE.

Article 14
Photovoltaic plants

1. In order to promote the production of electricity from photovoltaic plants RAE shall prepare and the Minister for Development approve a Photovoltaic Plant Deployment Plan. This plan, whose first phase of implementation shall commence from the enter into effect of this law and end on 31.12.2020, shall relate to the deployment of photovoltaic plants installed in Greece with a total capacity of at least 500 $MW_{peak,}$ for plants connected to the System directly or via the Grid, and a total capacity of at least 200 $MW_{peak,}$ for plants connected to the Non-interconnected island grid.

2. The 200 $MW_{peak,}$ capacity referred to in the previous paragraph may be allocated to Non-Interconnected Islands Autonomous Power Systems based on the capabilities of each Autonomous Power System by means of decision of the Minister for Development issued on a recommendation from the Non-Interconnected Islands Operator where RAE has first provided an opinion. The format, content and procedure for entering into contracts for the sale of electricity produced by photovoltaic plants, the connection procedure for such plants, certification of plan completion, as well as all specific matters and modalities relating to operation of such plants in the context of the plan shall be laid down by means of similar decision.

3. Billing of electricity produced by photovoltaic plants included in the plan which is absorbed by the System directly or via the Grid or via the Non-Interconnected Islands Grid shall be done in accordance with the table in Article 13. These prices may be altered after the commencement of the plan based on its targets by means of decision of the Minister for Development issued after an opinion has been provided by RAE.

CHAPTER V
GUARANTEES OF ORIGIN OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM RES

Article 15
Guarantees of Origin

1. The origin of electricity produced by plants operating lawfully using RES shall be proven by producers solely and exclusively using Guarantees of Origin issued by the bodies specified in Article 16. These guarantees shall specify the energy source from which the electricity was produced, specifying the dates and places of production, and in the case of hydroelectric installations, indicate the capacity.

2. If the energy was produced by hydroelectric installations which using pumping systems to fill storage systems, the guarantees of origin shall be issued solely for the difference between the electricity produced from hydropower and the electricity absorbed from the System or Grid to fill the storage system.

3. If the electricity is produced from biomass, the guarantee of origin shall be issued only for the percentage of energy corresponding to the biodegradable fraction

specified in Article 2(8).

4. A decision of the Minister for Development may require that guarantees of origin also be issued for electricity produced from other sources apart from RES.

Article 16
Guarantee of Origin issue and control bodies

1. The following bodies are designated as issue bodies for the guarantee of origin of electricity:

a) the System Operator for electricity supplied to the System directly or via the Grid

b) the Non-Interconnected Island Operator for electricity supplied to the Non-Interconnected Island Grid.

c) CRES for electricity produced by autonomous plants which do not supply the System or Grid. To this end, CRES shall install suitable measurement devices at the producer's expenses for producers submitting an application for guarantees of origin.

2. The guarantee System control body is RAE. In accordance with the provisions of Articles 17 and 18 RAE shall supervise reliable operation of the guarantee of origin System for electricity, manage issues of mutual recognition of guarantees of origin issued by the competent authorities of other Member States of the European Union or other states and collaborate with those authorities.

Article 17
Content and procedure for issuing Guarantee of Origin

1. Guarantees of origin shall certify the electricity produced for a specific time period. As a minimum Guarantee of Origin shall set out the time period to which they relate, the net quantity of electricity produced in that period, the source of such energy, the location of the production plant, that plant's installed capacity, the producer and the date of issue.

2. In order to obtain Guarantees of Origin producers shall submit applications to the competent issuing body. Guarantees of Origin shall be issued based on adequate data and precise information provided by the producer to certify the origin of electricity as well as certified measurement data from the System Operator, Grid Operator or Non-Interconnected Grid Operator. Such data shall be notified by the producer to the control body.

3. If there are doubts about the validity and accuracy of data and information on the basis of which Guarantees of Origin are issued, the competent control body may issue a reasoned decision refusing the issue the Guarantees of Origin.

4. Guarantees of Origin shall certify the production of electricity from RES for a time period of at least 30 days. The competent control body may withdraw or amend Guarantees of Origin or issue new ones where the conditions for withdrawal, amendment or issuance of new Guarantees of Origin in accordance with the provisions of the decision issued in line with Article 18(3).

5. If the holder of the production licence for electricity from RES changes, the Guarantees of Origin shall be transferred to the new holder the body responsible for issuing such guarantees. RAE shall be informed of such transfer by the original holder.

6. Each Guarantee of Origin issuing body shall keep a register in electronic format and hard copy. This register shall be used to record Guarantees of Origin issued, the particulars they contain and all information relating to amendment or withdrawal thereof. Any interested party shall be entitled to freely access this register.

7. In the case of Guarantees of Origin issued by CRES in accordance with Article 16(1)(c), producers concerned shall pay a reasonable fee. The level of this fee shall be

agreed, in each case, by CRES and the producer and shall reflect the cost of the work required for such certification. Should CRES and the producer concerned disagree on the level of the fee, such fee shall be fixed by RAE on a request by the producer, by issuing a decision to that effect.

Article 18
Assurance mechanism

1. In order to ascertain that the conditions for issuing Guarantees of Origin have been met and that the data and information on the basis of which they are issued is correct, the issuing body and persons authorised by it, without prejudice to observance of business secrets, shall have free access to the relevant production plant and all data and information relating to that plant. The producer is obliged to facilitate the work of the issuing body and persons authorised by it.
2. If the issuing body is the System Operator, the Grid Operator is obliged to collaborate with it and provide the data and information considered necessary for the purposes cited in the previous paragraph.
3. For the purpose of implementing the Guarantee of Origin System and its assurance mechanism, a decision of the Minister for Development may be issued on an opinion from RAE laying down in particular:
a) The procedure and supporting documents needed to issue Guarantees of Origin.
b) The time limit within which the issuing body is obliged to reply to applications submitted and the legal consequence from failure to comply with this obligation.
c) The format and content of Guarantees of Origin for each issuing body.
d) The terms and conditions and procedure for amending, withdrawing or issuing new Guarantees of Origin.
e) Issues relating to collaboration between issuing bodies and the control body and the competent authorities of Member States of the EU and other states and the procedure and conditions for mutual recognition of Guarantees of Origin issued by other Member States of the EU or other states.
f) All other specific issues and modalities relating to implementation of the Guarantee of Origin System and its assurance mechanism.

CHAPTER VI
R.E.S AND HIGH-EFFICIENCY COGENERATION SECTOR COORDINATION AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION BODIES

Article 19
Large-Scale RES and High-Efficiency Cogeneration Investment Plans Promotion Committee

1. A Large-Scale RES and High-Efficiency Cogeneration Investment Plans Promotion Committee shall be established within the Ministry of Development. This Committee, which shall be established by decision of the Minister for Development within 3 months from the entry into effect of this law, shall consist of:
a) The General Secretary of the Ministry of Development, acting as chairman;
b) The General Secretary for Investments and Development within the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance;
c) The General Secretary for the Environment and Physical Planning within the Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning & Public Works;
d) The General Secretary of Ministry of Rural Development & Food;

e) The General Secretary of the Ministry of Culture;

f) The Chairman of the Central Union of Municipalities & Communities Of Greece KEDKE) or a replacement, appointed by him;

g) The Chairman of RAE or a replacement, appointed by him;

h) The Chairman of CRES or a replacement, appointed by him;

i) The Head of the Ministry of Development's Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Savings Directorate;

j) The head of the Ministry of Development's Electricity Production Directorate.

2. The mission of this committee shall be to rapidly promote investments in RES and high-efficiency cogeneration projects relating to electricity production plants with an installed capacity of 30 MWe or more or a total budget of over € 30,000,000 (Large-scale RES and high-efficiency cogeneration investment plans) and to resolve all issues arising during the installation and operating licence issuance procedure for RES and high-efficiency cogeneration. This Committee shall address issues within its remit acting on own initiative or following an adequately reasoned request from a party concerned.

3. In order to discharge its mission, the Committee shall:

a) Ensure that such investments are rapidly implemented by coordinating and providing guidelines to the competent services in accordance with the procedures laid down in the relevant legislation.

b) Examine each case relating to paragraph 2 investments and contribute to resolution of problems arising and to this end shall make suitable recommendations.

c) Intermediate to remove doubts or settle disputes arising during the RES or high-efficiency cogeneration project authorisation procedure between parties concerned and the relevant services in the context of the relevant provisions and shall, to this end, contact the administrative supervisors and political leadership of the competent services.

d) Submit recommendations and proposals to the Minister for Development or other appropriate ministers in each case on promoting investments in the RES and high-efficiency cogeneration sectors and solutions for overcoming all related issues.

4. Secretarial support for this committee shall be provide by the Ministry of Development's Administrative Support Directorate.

Article 20
RES and High-Efficiency Cogeneration Committee

1. A RES and High-Efficiency Cogeneration Committee shall be established within the Ministry of Development by decision of the Minister for Development within 3 months from the entry into effect of this law, comprised of:

a) The Head of the Ministry of Development's Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Savings Directorate, acting as chairman;

b) A representative of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance appointed by the Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance;

c) A representative of the Hellenic Transmission System Operator (HTSO) appointed by its Board of Director;

d) The head of the Ministry of Development's Electricity Production Directorate;

e) The Head of the Environment Service within the Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning & Public Works;

f) The head of the Ministry of Rural Development & Food's competent directorate;

g) The head of the Ministry of Culture's competent Directorate;

h) An expert from RAE appointed by its chairman.

2. The mission of this committee shall be coordinate the relevant services and provide them with all necessary support to:

a) Issue installation and operating licences for RES or high-efficiency

cogeneration plants with an installed capacity of 30 MWe or less or with an investment budget of less than € 30,000,000.

b) Rapidly implement investments in the RES and high-efficiency cogeneration sectors.

3. In order to discharge its mission, the Committee shall:

a) Examine each case relating to investments in RES or high-efficiency cogeneration projects in accordance with paragraph 2 and ensure that any problems which arise are resolved. Among other things, it shall monitor observance of the procedure, conditions and time limits set out for issuing opinions and approvals in accordance with the provisions of this law and the regulatory decisions issued pursuant to it. The Committee shall address issues acting on own initiative or following an adequately reasoned request from a party concerned or on a referral from the Committee referred to in Article 19. For each case examined this Committee shall submit a report to the Minister for Development, other competent ministers and the RAE.

b) By 1 February each year, submit a report to the Minister for Development and RAE setting out and substantiating the most important problems relating to RES and high-efficiency cogeneration sector investments and proposals on how to address them.

4. The Committee may invite the directors or other senior staff members of other ministries or bodies governed by public or private law supervised by those ministries and organisations as well as representatives of the Hellenic Investment Centre, CRES, collective and scientific associations from the sector and investors in the RES and high-efficiency cogeneration sectors to attend its meetings as appropriate.

5. The Committee shall meet at regular intervals, once every 2 months, and on an extraordinary basis when its Chairman considers that the need arises.

6. In order to discharge its mission the Committee may collaborate with competent services and bodies in the public and wider public sector which are obliged to assist it in its task and provide it in good time with all necessary data and useful information.

7. Issues relating to secretarial support, technical and scientific support for the Committee and all specific issues and modalities on its operation shall be laid down by decision of the Ministers for the Interior, Public Administration & Decentralisation, Economic Affairs and Finance and Development. Until such decision is issued, secretarial support for this committee shall be provided by the Ministry of Development's Administrative Support Directorate.

Article 21
RES promotion reports

1. Before 1 October each year, the Minister for Development shall approve the national report on RES promotion and ensure that it is published using every reasonable means. This report shall be prepared by CRES and shall include:

a) A detailed review of RES and high-efficiency cogeneration penetration in the national energy balance and the progress made in RES and high-efficiency cogeneration sector investments, particularly in relation to achievement of national and Community targets.

b) Identification and a record of the reasons and circumstances which prevented increased production of electricity from RES.

c) Comparative data relating to RES promotion in Greece compared to other EU countries.

The first report shall be prepared and published by 1 October 2007.

2. Before 1 October every second year, the Minister for Development shall approve a detailed report relating to achievement of national indicative targets and

ensure that it is published using every reasonable means.

This report shall be prepared by RAE and shall include:

a) A reference to climate factors which may affect achievement of these targets. This report shall clearly set out the measures which have been taken to implement national climate change commitments.

b) An evaluation of the measures referred to in the previous sub-paragraph as well as the measures taken to limit legislative, regulatory, administrative or other barriers to accelerating RES promotion procedures.

c) Energy policy proposals and implementation measures for achieving national indicative targets based on Community law requirements.

The first report shall be prepared and published by 1 October 2008.

3. Before 1 October every fifth year, the Minister for Development shall approve a detailed report on achievement of the national indicative targets and ensure that it is published using every reasonable means. This report shall be prepared by RAE and shall include:

a) Setting of national indicative targets on the level of electricity produced from RES in future electricity consumption for the next 10 years.

b) a description of the measures taken or planned at national level to achieve these national indicative targets.

The first report shall be prepared and published by 1 October 2011.

Article 22
Administrative Sanctions

1. A fine ranging from € 5,000 to € 500,000 may be imposed, depending on the seriousness and frequency of the infringement, by means of decision of RAE issued after the parties concerned have been granted a hearing in line with Article 6 of Law 2690/1999 (Government Gazette 45/A) in cases where:

a) The competent Operator is not informed in accordance with Article 4(2).

b) The Minister for Development and RAE are not informed when no amendment to the production licence is required in accordance with Article 3(5).

c) Inaccurate data is included in Guarantees of Origin in breach of the provisions of Article 17(2).

d) The essential provisions of this law or regulatory decisions issued pursuant to it or decisions of RAE issued in accordance with the provisions of Article 5(3) or the terms of licenses issued in accordance with the provisions of this law are breached.

RAE decisions issued in the above cases shall be published on its website.

2. The upper and lower ceilings on the fines cited in the previous paragraph may be readjusted by joint decision of the Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance and Development issued on a recommendation from RAE.

3. The fines imposed in accordance with the provisions of this article shall be confirmed by the Greek state and collected in accordance with the provisions of the Hellenic Revenue Collection Code.

4. Imposition of fines in accordance with the provisions of this article does not preclude the imposition of other administrative sanctions provided for by other relevant provisions or penal sanctions pursuant to Article 458 of the Hellenic Penal Code for the same offence.

5. Where the provisions of this law are infringed under which licences are granted or the terms of those licences are not observed, the Minister for Development may withdraw such licences having first obtained an opinion from RAE.

Article 23
Codification of legislation

A Presidential Decree may be issued on a proposal from the Minister for Development codifying the provisions of the relevant legislation governing the production of electricity from any source into a single text. During such codification, the order of articles, the names of headings, the division of material into sections and chapters is permitted and phrasing may be improved and all necessary changes to wording made without affecting the meaning of the text.

CHAPTER VII
AMENDED PROVISIONS

Article 24

A. 1. The first indent of Article 58(2) of Law 998/1979 (Government Gazette 289/A) is hereby replaced as follows:

‘2. In order to implement infrastructure works, install power transmission and distribution grids, construct substations and in implement technical works in general relating to the infrastructure and installation of plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration using RES which are included in connection projects to the System or Grid, as defined in Article 2 of Law 2773/1999 and associated projects, as well as natural gas and petroleum product transmission and distribution grids through forests or forested areas, approval for this work shall be required. Such approval shall be included in the decision on approval of environmental terms and shall be issued:

a) By the Minister for Rural Development & Food when the said decision is being signed in the case of RES or high-efficiency cogeneration projects or activities for whose environmental authorisation the central environment service of the Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works is competent.

b) By the General Secretary of the relevant Region when the said decision is being signed, on a recommendation from the regional forestry service, in the case of RES or high-efficiency cogeneration projects or activities for whose environmental authorisation the regional or prefectural environment service is competent.

2. If the procedure referred to in Article 14 of Law 998/1979 on characterisation of an area where there plans to install a RES or high-efficiency cogeneration using RES plant is applicable, the relevant procedure shall be commenced in parallel with the procedure for issuing the environmental terms approval, and the time limit for issuance thereof shall be extended for such time as the Article 14 procedure lasts.

B. 1. The first indent of Article 2(5) of Law 2244/1994 (Government Gazette 168/A) is hereby replaced as follows:

‘In cases of autoproduction plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration, the sites where the plant is established must be beside the sites where consumption occurs or those premises must be supplied by the plant by a direct line.

2. The following phrase is hereby inserted into the end of Article 5(3) of Law 2244/1994: ‘as well as RES plant connection projects'.

C. Article 10(1)(a) of Law 2773/1999 is hereby replaced as follows:

‘a) reserve plants, regardless of their capacity, operating only in the case where electricity blacks out due to System or Grid failure or fault. If these plants operate for purposes other than those stated, a production licence shall be required.'

D. A new paragraph 9 is hereby inserted into Article 14 of Law 2971/2001, the text of which is as follows:

‘9. Concession of the right to use the foreshore, coastline, adjacent or nearby

coastal area or seabed for carrying out works to install plants producing electricity from RES is permitted by means of decision of the Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance referred to in paragraph 1. Such works shall include those cited in paragraph 4 as well as the installation of substations and the construction of all manner of works deemed necessary to connect the plant to the System or Grid.

In order for such right to be granted, the party concerned shall submit an application to the land service which shall be notified to the Minister for Development. This application shall be accompanied by a technical description of the project. The land service shall send three copies of the dossier within 15 days from submission of the application to the authority competent for environmental authorisation in order to comply with the environmental terms approval procedure in line with the relevant provisions.

The environmental terms approval shall be sent to the land service in order for a concession decision to be issued in accordance with the first indent.'

CHAPTER VIII
OTHER PROVISIONS

Article 25

A. 1. Each producer of electricity from RES to whom a production licence is granted after the entry into force of this law shall be obliged to pay a duty from the commencement of commercial operation of its plant. This duty shall be 3% of the sale price of electricity (VAT excl.) to the System, Grid or Non-Interconnected Island Operator. Producers of electricity from photovoltaic systems shall be exempted from payment of this duty.

2. The amounts generated by application of this duty in accordance with the previous paragraph shall be withheld by the Operator and 80% shall be paid to the primary level local government authority within whose administrative boundaries the RES plants are established and 20% shall be paid to the primary level local government authority through whose territory the line connecting the plant to the System or Grid passes. Where the plant is installed within the administrative boundaries of more than one local government authority, the duty shall be allocated to them pro rata with the plant's unit capacity installed in the territory or each local government authority or, in the case of hydroelectric plants with installed capacity of 15 MWe or less, pro rata with the length of that section of the pipe which is installed within the territory of each local government authority. Where the line connecting the plant to the System or Grid passes through the territory of more than one local government authority the duty shall be allocated to them pro rata with the length of the connection line located within the territory of each local government authority. The point of connection for the plant shall be specified in the connection terms formulated by the competent Operator.

3. The duty payable shall be recorded in a special account in the revenue budget of the relevant primary level local government authority (Revenue from plants producing electricity from RES) and 80% shall necessarily be used exclusively for the purpose of implementing local development projects in areas within the boundaries of the municipal or community district where the plant is established or through which the connection line passes and 20% shall be used in the other territory of the relevant primary level local government authority. In implementing and operating these projects, the relevant local government authority shall ensure that a sign is displayed stating the origin of the relevant financing. Local government authorities are obliged to submit a report reviewing use of the revenues derived from this duty to the Minister for Development and General Secretary of the Region within the first quarter of each

calendar year.

4. Where the local government authority does not have a treasury service, the amounts collected from this duty shall be deposited with the local tax office in the name of the local government authority which shall be notified in writing of this.

5. Within the first two months of each year, the competent Operators shall inform the Minister for Development in writing about the amounts paid to each beneficiary during the previous year.

6. The General Secretary of the relevant Region shall review the legitimacy of and supervise use of the amounts derived from this duty by local government authorities in accordance with the provisions of this Article and shall submit a report on this matter to the Minister for Development at the end of each year.

7. The procedure and specific issues and modalities relating to implementation of the provisions of this Article may be laid down by means of joint decision of the Ministers for the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralisation, Economic Affairs and Finance and Development.

B. 1. The assets of undertakings which receive aid in accordance with the provisions of Law 3299/2004 (Government Gazette 261/A) for investment plans to produce electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration which correspond to expenditure for expansion projects to connect them to the PPC Grid, shall, following completion, devolve to the owner of the System or Grid in accordance with the provisions of Law 2773/1999 as in force, and the ministerial decisions issued pursuant to it, by way of exception to the provisions of Article 10 of Law 3299/2004.

2. The method and criteria for payment of project construction cost aid referred to in the previous paragraph in cases where more than one user is connected to the PPC Grid and there are issues of allocation of connection costs with a rebate to amounts to initially connected users shall be laid down by means of joint decision of the Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance and Development.

3. The arrangements cited in paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall also include approval decisions for investment plans which have been issued in accordance with the provisions of Law 3299/2004 and pending applications which have been submitted for

C. At the end of the last indent of Article 10(1)(a) of Law 2323/1994 (Government Gazette 28/A) replaced by Article 2(10) of Law 2349/145 (Government Gazette 2005/A) after the word Corfu, the comma is deleted and the phase and in the prefecture of Halkidiki is inserted

D.1 The phrase ‘for which the impediments in paragraph 5 apply' in lines 13 and 14 of Article 3(1) of Law 3438/2006 (Government Gazette 33/A) is hereby deleted.

2. A new paragraph 4 is hereby inserted into Article 4 of Law 3438/2006, the text of which is as follows:

‘3. Five positions for special experts employed on private law contracts of work are hereby established within the Special Scientific Secretariat, two for the Chairman and three for the Scientific Secretary of the SEES in order to support their work.

Persons shall be recruited to these positions by decision of the Chairman and Scientific Secretary of the SEES with the provisions of Article 8(1) of Law 2623/1998 (Government Gazette 139/A) applying by analogy in all other respects.

Article 26

1. In the case of tender procedures held by the Hellenic Transmission System Operator S.A. (HTSO S.A.) in accordance with the provisions of Article 15(4) of Law 2773/1999 as in force, where a natural or legal person who holds an electricity production licence is appointed as a contractor on his/its own or as a member of joint venture or association of natural or legal persons, or where that contractor in the capacities cited above is lawfully substituted, the electricity production licence shall be

amended as appropriate to reflect the name of the new person who signs the relevant contracts or the name of the person substituting the contractor by means of decision of the Minister for Development where an opinion has first been obtained from RAE. This decision shall be issued within 15 days from submission of an application to that effect. In these cases the time limit for submission of objections in accordance with the Electricity Production and Supply Licences Regulations approved by Decision D5-HL/B/F.1/17951/8.12.2000 of the Minister for Development (Government Gazette 1498/B) is set at 5 days from the date on which RAE's intention to make an amendment to the relevant license is made public.

2. In order for the contractor to be substituted in contracts which result from the aforementioned tender procedures, approval is needed in the form of a decision from the Minister for Development issued on a recommendation from HTSO S.A. where an opinion from RAE has first been obtained.

3. In order to amend an installation and operating licence for plants producing electricity referred to in the previous paragraph, the competent body shall decide within a fixed time limit of 10 days from submission of an application to that effect. If this time limit expires and no decision has been issued the application dossier shall be promptly dispatched to the Minister for Development who shall decide on amendment of the licence within 10 days from receiving the relevant dossier.

The following indent is hereby inserted into the end of Article 15(3) of Law 2773/1999:

'The tender with the lowest price may be set as the award criterion in accordance with the previous indent.'

4. The provisions of this article shall apply retrospectively as of 1.4.2006.

CHAPTER IX
INTERIM AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 27

1. Applications for a licence to produce electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration for which no RAE opinion has been issued by the entry into effect of this Law shall be evaluated in accordance with the criteria laid down in Article 8 of the Electricity Production and Supply Licence Regulations which have been approved by Decision No. D5-HL/B/F.1/17951/8.12.2000 of the Minister for Development and the criteria in Article 3(1)(d) of this Law. In all other respects Article 3(2) of this Law shall apply.

2. Applications which have been submitted for the purpose of obtaining an installation licence, to have a preliminary EIA issued, to obtain approval for intervention or a forest concession issued, to have environmental terms approved or have an operating licence issued, for which no administrative decision has been issued by the entry into force of this law, shall be assessed in accordance with the provisions in effect at the time those applications were submitted.

3. Operating licences for producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration in effect at the entry into force of this law shall be automatically extend and shall expire 20 years from their date of issue.

4. Hydropower produced by hydroelectric plants which have a total installed capacity of more than 20 MWe shall be excluded from the application of the provisions of this law.

5. Producers of electricity from RES whose plants are in commercial operation upon the entry into force of this law shall be obliged to pay from that point in time the difference between the duty payable to Local Government Authorities already paid and the 2.5% duty referred to in Article 25(1) until the end of 5 years from commercial

operation of their plants. In all other respects, the provisions of the second, third and fourth indents of Article 25(1) shall apply to those producers.

6. Article 2(5) of Law 2244/1994 as replaced by Article 24(B)(1) of this law shall apply until the entry in force of the Grid Management Code and the Non-Interconnected Islands Code.

7. Where the relevant legislation makes reference to the provisions of Articles 35 to 29 of Law 2773/1999, as in force, that reference shall be taken as being a reference to Articles 9, 10, 12 and 13 of this law.

8. Holders of geothermal field management rights shall be obliged within the time limit specified in the relevant licence to sign a contract for the sale of geothermal products with the holder of the production licence in accordance with the terms and at the price specified in detailed in the production licence.

9. The share of electricity produced from RES in the gross national energy consumption shall be 20.1% up to 2010 and 29% up to 2020 in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of the Directive.

10. In order to obtain an installation licence for hydroelectric plants up to 22.12.2009 a water resources management plan shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with Article 7 of Law 3199/2003 (Government Gazette 280/A).

11. Contracts for the sale of electricity produced from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration plants which are in effect upon the publication of this law which have not been renewed in accordance with the provisions of Article 37 of Law 2773/1999 as in force may be extended for an additional 10 years under the provisions of Article 12(2). Contracts for the sale of electricity produced from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration plants in force upon publication of this law shall be governed by the provisions of Article 13 of this Law.

Article 28
Repealed Provisions

Upon entry into force of this law, the following provisions are hereby repealed:

1. a) The last indent of Article 3(4) and Article 10 of Law 3175/2003.

b) Article 35(1), (2), (3) and Articles 36, 37, 38 and 39 of Law 2773/1999.

c) Article 2(4) of Law 2244/1994

d) Article 3(1), (2), (3), (5), (6) and (7) of Law 2244/1994 as in force to the extent that they relate to plants producing electricity from RES or high-efficiency cogeneration or from reserve plants. Where the relevant legislation makes reference to the provisions of those paragraphs for such plants, that reference shall be taken as being a reference to Articles 8 and 24(C) of this law.

2. All other general or specific provisions which conflict with the provisions of this law or relate to matters regulated by it.

Article 29

1. A new paragraph 5 is hereby inserted into Article 40 of Law 3428/2005 (Government Gazette 313/A), the text of which is as follows:

‘5. Until the National Natural Gas System Management Code is issued under the provisions of Article 9 and the standard transmission and storage facility usage agreements are approved under the provisions of Article 8(2)(a), for the purposes of acquiring access to the National Natural Gas System and use thereof, fixed-term agreements shall be entered into between DEPA S.A. and the persons entitled to access that System. The signing procedure, content and terms of such agreements shall be laid down by decision of the Minister for Development where an opinion has first been obtained from RAE.

Article 30

The third indent of Article 9(1) of Law 2545/1997 (Government Gazette 254/A) inserted by Article 30(2) of Law 3325/2005 (Government Gazette 68/A) is hereby replaced as follows:

‘In the case of industrial parks, handicrafts parks and technopolises, suspension of the issuance of building permits shall be removed once the implementation decision for the planning study has been approved.'

Article 31

1. A special programme entitled DIODOS is hereby established which seeks to provide undergraduate and postgraduate students at all universities with preferential access to the internet and information technologies in collaboration with public and private sector agencies by utilising the infrastructure of those agencies.

The DIODOS programme shall be prepared by the special committee referred to in paragraph 3 in line with the content of the decision issued pursuant to paragraph 4 and approved by the Minister for Development.

2. Every undergraduate student shall be granted the option of preferential access to the services cited in paragraph 1 for a time period at least to the length of his studies. All students matriculating for a masters or doctoral degree shall be granted the option of preferential access to the services cited in paragraph 1 for at least 2 and 4 years respectively from matriculation.

3. A special committee is hereby established within the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the Ministry of Development. This Committee shall monitor the implementation and progress of the DIODOS programme and submit proposals and recommendations to the Minister for Development on improving and adapting the said programme to developments. The Special Committee which shall be set up by decision of the Minister for Development shall be comprised of:

a) the General Secretary for Research and Technology, acting as chairman;

b) a representative of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, along with his replacement, appointed by the relevant Minister;

c) a representative of the Ministry of Development, along with his replacement, appointed by the relevant Minister;

d) a representative of the Ministry of Education & Religious Affairs, along with his replacement, appointed by the relevant Minister;

e) a representative of the Ministry of Transport & Communications, along with his replacement, appointed by the relevant Minister;

f) a representative of the Synod of Chancellors, along with his replacement, appointed by that Synod;

g) a representative of the Synod of Presidents of Technological Educational Institutes, along with his replacement, appointed by that Synod and

h) a representative of the state-operated company 'National Research and Technology Network’, along with his replacement, appointed by the Chairman thereof.

4. The duration and manner in which the paragraph 1 services are provided to beneficiaries of those services, the procedure for setting the fee payable to providers for each type of service, the public and private sector agencies participating in the DIODOS programme and all other specific matters and modalities shall be laid down by means of joint decision of the Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance, Development, Education & Religious Affairs and Transport & Communications.

Article 32

Regulation of matters relating to implementation of global assistance

1. A new paragraph (k) is hereby inserted into Article 1 of Law 2860/2000 on Management, monitoring and control of the Community Support Framework and other provisions (Government Gazette 251/A), the text of which is as follows:

'k. Global assistance: Part of an operational programme, single programming document, Community initiative programme or support for technical assistance and innovative actions used, as a rule, to support local development initiatives, implementation and management of which may, under the Regulation, be assigned to one or more intermediate bodies in accordance with the terms and conditions hereof.'

2. A new Article 24a is hereby inserted into Law 2860/2000 after Article 24, the text of which is as follows:

'Article 24A

1. The terms for applying global assistance in the context of Regional Operational Programmes for small islands and remote island areas and in particular the purpose, scope, body, manner and level of financing, the procedures, implementation, management and supervisory bodies shall be laid down and the manner and procedure for payment of expenditure to intermediate bodies cited in the following paragraph for payment of individual contractors and all other related procedural matters shall be regulated by means of joint decision of the Ministers for the Interior, Public Administration & Decentralisation, Economic Affairs and Finance, and the Aegean & Island Policy.

Where the global assistance relates to the preparation of designs or the implementation of technical works, and where the purpose, nature or legal framework within which the intermediate body operates so requires, the competences to assign and manage studies or projects and the deciding bodies shall be laid down by decision by way of deviation to all general or specific provisions, without prejudice to the relevant provisions of Community law.

2. In implementing the Joint Ministerial Decision referred to in the previous paragraph, a decision of the Managing Authority for the relevant Regional Operational Programme shall be issued, approved by the Steering Committee referred to in paragraph 4 hereof, including global assistance in the Operational Programme and assigning implementation and management thereof to one or more intermediate bodies established or represented in the Regions where the planned measures are to be implemented. Intermediate bodies which include local government authorities, regional development organisations, and non-profit charities should operate in the public interest, have recognised skill and experience in administrative and financial management and extensive experience in the specific sector to which the Operational Programme relates and in general meet the conditions contained in Article 27 of the Regulation. Exceptionally, in certain justified cases, assignment may be made to intermediate bodies which are not installed or represented in the Regions concerned.

On the basis of a framework agreement, intermediate bodies may also be assigned tasks related to global assistance by individual competent public services, local government authorities or legal entities supervised by them, on their behalf. Intermediate bodies may also function as final beneficiaries.

3. Intermediate bodies assigned implementation and management to global assistance in accordance with the provisions of the previous paragraph shall enter into a contract with the head of the Community Support Framework Managing Authority laying down implementation details and the procedure for supervising global assistance. This contract shall set out in detail, inter alia, the measures to be implemented, the beneficiary selection criteria, the terms and levels of assistance from Funds, including the use of interest which may be generated, control, payment and evaluation procedures and all other necessary details.

4. In order to coordinate, monitor, evaluate and approval global assistance a Steering Committee shall be established by means of the decision referred to in paragraph 1 comprised of the Minister for the Aegean & Island Policy, acting as Chairman, the General Secretary of Investments and Development of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, the General Secretary of the Ministry of the Aegean & Island Policy and the General Secretaries of the North Aegean, South Aegean and Ionian Island Regions or their representatives, and its competences shall be specified. The same decision shall also establish a Technical Secretariat to support the Steering Committee setting out staffing and laying down its modus operandi and any fees or remuneration for its members in accordance with the applicable legislation.

5. Intermediate bodies shall submit the following to the Steering Committee for approval:

a) a detailed global assistance scheme
b) the projects and sub-projects to be included.
c) a global assistance time schedule
d) detailed information on the individual cost of implementing global assistance and
e) any additional information required by the decision referred to in paragraph 1.

Article 33
Entry into force

The provisions of this law shall enter into force from its publication in the Government Gazette unless individual provisions hereof specifically state otherwise.

We hereby order publication of this law in the Government Gazette and that it be enforced as a law of the State.

Athens, 22 June 2006

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
KAROLOS G. PAPOULIAS

THE MINISTERS FOR

THE INTERIOR, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DECENTRALISATION
P. PAVLOPOULOS

DEVELOPMENT
D. SIOUFAS

EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
M. GIANNAKOU

JUSTICE
A. PAPALIGOURAS

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT
F. PALLI-PETRALIA

MERCANTILE MARINE
E. KEFALOGIANNIS

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS & FINANCE
G. ALOGOSKOUFIS

THE ENVIRONMENT, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS
G. SOUFLIAS

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD
E. BASIAKOS

CULTURE
G. VOULGARAKIS

TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS
M. G. LIAPIS

THE AEGEAN AND ISLAND POLICY
A. PAVLIDIS

Attested and the Great Seal of the State attached

Athens, 27 June 2006
The Minister for Justice
A. PAPALIGOURAS