



Press release

Romande Energie Renouvelable commits itself to the Sainte-Croix wind farm project

Morges, 15 January 2008 – Romande Energie Renouvelable has decided to become involved in the Sainte-Croix wind farm project, more precisely on the sites of Le Mont des Cerfs and La Gittaz Dessus. Romande Energie Renouvelable is thus embarking, as investor also as the party responsible for implementation, in the concretisation of a project included in a cantonal allocation plan currently being prepared by the State of Vaud, in collaboration with the municipality of Sainte-Croix.

Seven windmills on the Jura promontory

The sites of Le Mont des Cerfs and La Gittaz Dessus will be able to accommodate seven windmills producing 15 to 20 GWh of electricity per year, or the annual consumption of from 4 to 6000 households. Romande Energie Renouvelable will be investing more than CHF 30 million in this wind energy project, which sum includes the cost of preparatory work, infrastructure and installation of the windmills themselves. According to the schedule in place, the cantonal allocation plan will be filed some time in 2008 and implementation could follow around two years later, i.e. in 2010.

An investment in line with national and local objectives

The current context of energy policy of the Federal Council, with the new tax to support renewable energy, as well as public opinion in favour of sustainable development, has brought about renewed interest for projects such as the Sainte-Croix wind farm. As a responsible and environmentally aware company, Romande Energie wishes to make a concrete contribution, commensurate with its scale, to the overall objective set by the Confederation, namely to achieve a rate of renewable energy equal to 10% of all energy distributed annually between now and 2020-2030. Its daughter company Romande Energie Renouvelable, operational since the end of 2006, is fully committed to the production of electricity based on new renewable energies (solar, mini-hydraulic, biomass and wind farms). In one year, it has increased tenfold its investment projects, which today exceed CHF 100 million. The Sainte-Croix project is perfectly in keeping with the objectives of Romande Energie Renouvelable, since it represents a concrete opportunity to develop a wind energy production site with attractive potential in French-speaking Switzerland.

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