

AGM of Romande Energie Holding SA

**Significant advantages and projects to meet
the new challenges facing the electricity market**

The 111th Annual General Meeting of Romande Energie Holding SA was held today in Morges. Shareholders approved the 2012 annual report and financial statements as well as the recommendation to distribute a dividend of CHF 27.00 per share. In his address, the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the CEO drew attention to the strategic options chosen by Romande Energie Group for its ongoing development in the face of the problems and uncertainty besetting the power industry.

Morges, 27 May 2013 – Romande Energie Holding SA today hosted shareholders and business partners at its Annual General Meeting, held at the Théâtre de Beausobre, Morges. Shareholders approved the annual report, parent company and consolidated financial statements for 2012, and – through a consultative vote – the remuneration policy for members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board. They also gave their discharge to the Board of Directors and the Executive Board as well as reappointing Ernst & Young as auditors for the 2013 financial year.

The AGM approved payment of a gross dividend of CHF 27.00 per registered share, representing an increase of CHF 2.00 relative to the preceding year. Based on the number of shares entitling holders to the dividend, the payout will amount to CHF 27.7 million. By approving the payment, the AGM has endorsed the Group's financial health and voiced its confidence in its future capabilities.

Regarding directors appointed by the Vaud cantonal government, shareholders in attendance acknowledged renewals of the terms of Laurent Ballif, Guy Mustaki and Jean-Yves Pidoux for a further three years along with the appointment of Laurent Balsiger as successor to Daniel Schmutz, who has reached the legal retirement age.

Energy efficiency, renewable generation and customer focus

In his address, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Guy Mustaki, described the factors and uncertainties that are destabilising the Swiss and European power industries, leading to a hazy outlook for all the stakeholders concerned. With this in mind, he is delighted about the strategic options that have been chosen by Romande Energie: "At the moment, the 2050 energy strategy championed by the Swiss Federal Council provides for the replacement of all nuclear power plants by focusing on renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and power imports, while conceding that natural-gas power stations will be required to make up the shortfall in the medium term. All of these avenues have for several years been an integral part of our corporate strategy and the focus of our attention."

In his review of 2012, CEO Pierre-Alain Urech highlighted initiatives by the Group to develop proprietary generation facilities as illustrated by the launching and finalisation of several projects in photovoltaic and hydroelectric power together with groundwork carried out in France and Germany with a view to acquiring wind farms and hydropower facilities. Mr Urech also touched upon initiatives and training modules held throughout the year to strengthen ties with customers. "Customer focus is taken seriously by the Group and is a prime concern of every one of our divisions," he reaffirmed.

Looking ahead, Mr Urech announced forthcoming services to assist customers in making more efficient use of energy as well as continued investments in tailoring the distribution grid to demographic and technological changes. This includes increasing network capacity in the La Côte, Riviera, Broye and Chablais regions, construction of an eastern-regional operations hub in Villeneuve, continued rollout of fibre-optic, and participation in R&D programmes in the fields of energy storage and smart grids.

Pierre-Alain Urech also underlined the Group's plans to "optimise processes and fine tune operations with regard to infrastructure so that customers can always enjoy the most competitive prices on offer".

* * * * *

Summary of decisions taken at the Annual General Meeting

Item 1.1	Approval of the annual report, parent company financial statements and consolidated financial statements for 2012	Accepted
Item 1.2	Consultative vote on remuneration policy	Accepted
Item 2	Discharge for members of Board of Directors and Executive Board	Accepted
Item 3	Proposal for appropriation of net income Gross dividend of CHF 27/share (= CHF 17.55 net), payable from 3 June 2013	Accepted
Item 4.3	Re-election of auditors for the 2013 financial year: Ernst & Young SA	Accepted

112th Annual General Meeting: Tuesday 27 May 2014 in Morges

Detailed voting results will be published on the website www.romande-energie.ch on 11 June 2013.

* * * * *

Contact

Karin Devalte
Head of Communications
Phone: +41 21 802 95 67
Mobile: +41 79 386 47 67
Email: karin.devalte@romande-energie.ch

Romande Energie Group at a glance

Romande Energie Group is the leading electricity distributor in Western Switzerland. Through its subsidiary Romande Energie Commerce, it supplies more than 300,000 end-clients directly (representing a catchment population of 500,000 people) in over 300 municipalities in the cantons of Vaud, Valais, Fribourg and Geneva. Its core businesses are the **production, distribution and marketing** of electricity. The Group's priorities are to provide its clients with high-quality services and guarantee reliable, competitively priced electricity supplies on a long-term basis; to expand its own-power production by investing primarily in new renewable energy sources; and to promote innovative solutions in the field of energy efficiency.

For more information on Romande Energie Group, visit www.romande-energie.ch