



## ***Annual General Meeting of Romande Energie Holding SA Group***

### **Shareholders adopt all items on the agenda**

**Following the addresses delivered by Guy Mustaki, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Pierre-Alain Urech, CEO, the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of Romande Energie Group adopted all the items on the agenda, including the annual financial statements for 2008, the payment of a dividend of CHF 22 and the re-election of four directors whose term of office expires this year. The AGM was also informed that the Vaud Cantonal Government has appointed Paola Ghillani as a new member of the Board.**

Morges, 15 May 2009 – As announced on 30 March at the presentation of the Group's annual results, 2008 was a year geared to the achievement of three major objectives: demonstrating Romande Energie's environmental commitment through ambitious projects undertaken by its new Environment business unit, developing processes, services and marketing approaches to meet the requirements of partial market deregulation on 1 January 2009 and ensuring security of supply by stepping up own-power production. Full-year net income amounted to CHF 123 million, down by almost 29% compared with 2007. This decline was mainly due to the fall in affiliated companies' earnings, which were influenced on the upside by an exceptional accounting operation in 2007.

#### **Seventh successive increase in dividend**

In addition to approving the annual report and financial statements, the AGM adopted the Board's recommendation to pay a dividend of CHF 22 for 2008. Based on the number of shares outstanding, the total distribution will amount to CHF 24.2 million.

#### **Appointments and re-elections of directors**

Paola Ghillani was appointed to the Board of Directors by the Vaud Cantonal Government in place of Laurent Francfort, former Mayor of Vallorbe, who died suddenly at the end of 2008.

Wolfgang Martz, Christian Budry, Bernard Grobéty and Jean-Jacques Miauton, whose terms of office expire this year, were re-elected for a further period of 3 years.

The AGM also extended the appointment of Ernst & Young as the independent auditors for the 2009 financial year.

#### **Outlook for 2009**

In 2009, Romande Energie Group intends to make full use of the opportunities arising from market deregulation by offering new services and innovative solutions, while optimizing and expanding its grids. It will also step up its own-power production, sharpen its focus on energy efficiency and continue to invest substantially in renewable energies.

## **Note to editorial desks**

This press release is being issued outside the trading hours of the SIX Swiss Exchange as required by the SIX Listing Rules on ad hoc publicity.

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