

Unchanged electricity prices for all Romande Energie clients in 2010

Morges, 26 August 2009 – Romande Energie will publish its 2010 regulated tariffs on 31 August 2009, in accordance with the applicable legislation. The electricity price components that depend directly on Romande Energie, namely energy and local and regional grid usage tariffs, will remain stable in 2010. They account for just over 80% of the average consumer's electricity bill.

The other price components are also collected by Romande Energie, which passes on the relevant amounts to swissgrid and the federal, cantonal and municipal authorities. These components cover costs for transmission and distribution (high-voltage grids) and ancillary services, as well as taxes and levies.

Romande Energie is responsible for ensuring that its clients are provided with adequate power supplies whenever they need them. To do this, it generates electricity itself and purchases supplies on the wholesale energy markets. Although these purchases are becoming increasingly expensive, the Group will not be raising its prices in 2010.

The Group's tariffs (for energy and grid usage) have not been changed since July 2008. Indeed, the Volta simple tariff used by over two-thirds of clients has not budged since 2006.

Romande Energie strives to perform its mission with the utmost professionalism and to provide ever-higher levels of customer satisfaction. It will press ahead with efforts to rein in costs and step up own-power production in order to keep price rises in check. Detailed information on 2010 tariffs will be sent to clients shortly.

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Notes 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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The price of electricity consists of:

- the cost of energy
- the grid usage tariff
- taxes and levies charged by the federal, cantonal and municipal authorities.

The grid usage tariff represents the cost of transporting electricity from its place of production to its place of consumption, together with the cost of regulating the system. It is broken down into 3 parts:

- transportation cost (local and regional grids)
- transmission cost (high-voltage national grid)
- ancillary services (control energy).

While the transportation cost is calculated by Romande Energie, this is not the case for the transmission cost or for ancillary services, which are provided and invoiced to Romande Energie by swissgrid.

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The 2010 tariffs will be published on the AES website at www.electricite.ch on 31 August 2009.

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