

## **Romande Energie obliged to adjust its charges No impact on the majority of households**

**Following two successive reductions, representing an annual figure of CHF 46 million, Romande Energie now finds itself obliged to make an increase of around CHF 28 million per year with effect from 1 July 2008 (CHF 14 million for 2008). This increase has been made necessary by the explosion of procurement costs. More than three-quarters of households will not see any adjustment of their charges.**

Morges, 16 May 2008 – The massive increases in prices on the electricity markets, in the wake of rising prices of primary commodities and primary energies (coal, oil), have obliged Romande Energie to increase its charges for business users and a small number of private consumers.

This rise of around CHF 28 million per year - or 8.5% on average in relation to the overall sales figure for 2007 - will take effect on 1 July 2008, generating an increase of some CHF 14 million for the current year. It has been imposed after two successive cuts of CHF 30 million in 2005 and CHF 16 million in 2006, equivalent to an annualized reduction of CHF 46 million from which all the customers of Romande Energie have benefited until now. Envisaged for nearly 12 months, but delayed as long as possible in the interest of its clients, this rise therefore only partially catches up with the charge level prevailing before 2005.

### **More than 75% of households will see no increase**

On the household side, over three-quarters of the population served by Romande Energie, i.e. nearly 150,000 customers, will not be affected by the rise; their charges will remain unchanged.

For the remaining customer base, the annualised increase will be spread between private customers, tradesmen and commercial users in an amount of CHF 10 million, with a further CHF 18 million for professionals and big businesses.

Detailed personalised information will be sent shortly to the customers concerned.

### **Romande Energie remains competitive**

Despite this adjustment to its charges, Romande Energie remains in line with the national average, especially when account is taken of the significant increases announced by other distributors. Significantly, the rising trend of energy costs, and especially in the cost of electricity supplies at European level, is having a substantial impact on prices throughout the Swiss market.

Romande Energie realizes that a price rise is never good news and is also aware of its public interest mission. It therefore undertakes to keep market trends under very close review to maintain a charging position which is in line with the national average.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Contact**

Daniel Herrera  
Head of Communication  
Romande Energie SA  
Rue de Lausanne 53

Landline: 021 802 95 67  
Mobile: 079 250 74 94  
E-mail: [daniel.herrera@romande-energie.ch](mailto:daniel.herrera@romande-energie.ch)

**Internet site**

[www.romande-energie.ch](http://www.romande-energie.ch)