

CleanTech Centre, Netherlands

On Saturday October 4th, Wittenborg University presented the GREAT-project at the official opening of the CleanTech Centre in Zuthpen, The Netherlands.

The CleanTech Centre is a sustainable innovation centre catering for the eastern region of the Netherlands where knowledge about a sustainable future is exchanged between the private sector, educational institutes and the public sector.

It further seeks to address the challenges companies face in terms of clean technology and smart energy by clustering these needs and finding solutions by partnering with government agencies and the education sector.



Pic: Dr. Mirjam Leloux presenting GREAT

Wittenborg presented the GREAT project through its own information stall at the CleanTech Centre's "Future Market."

Dr. Mirjam Leloux also gave a presentation detailing the project. Several other Dutch SMEs presented their clean technology such as solar cells, smart grid developments,



Pic: Maggie Feng, (CEO) and Alexander Bauer (External expert in Transnational Business & Technology Sales/Marketing) at Wittenborg University

biomass energy production and energy consulting.

SMEs are among the participants who are evaluating the questionnaire and economic tools which Wittenborg are currently developing.

2030 Climate and Energy Policy Framework

Conclusions to the 2030 Climate and Energy Policy Framework held recently in Brussels whereby, EU leaders from member states have announced their agreement to ensure "substantial progress" will be made to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030.

Also at the meeting on 23rd October 2014, the leaders have promised that the renewable energy's market share will meet at least 27% by 2030 as well as meeting the target of at least a 27% increase in energy efficiency.

The framework of the deal has been published by the European Council and can be viewed through the following link;

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/145356.pdf

The EU will submit it's contribution by the first quarter of 2015, in line with the timeline agreed by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Warsaw. Countries have been asked to submit their targets and policies well in advance of the 21st Conference of the Parties in Paris late next year.

GREAT Youtube Channel

Our Youtube channel is up and running. Speaker presentations from our Smart Tech Watch Event in Claremorris on the 18th September last can be viewed on the following link.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxWjdAsn9NG3fDBwOOYhLQ>

DS4

D4S will be presenting GREAT as part of the Leeds Community Energy Initiative at the Leeds for Change Conference on 8th November.

Leeds Community Energy meets twice a month and is now

identifying sites for energy generation and already has a short list of sites in the city.

On 18th October, Dr. Carl James participated in the Eco homes workshop and also attended the Carbon Co-op in Manchester for a full day workshop and tour of retrofitting buildings. This involved discussions on priorities, mixing generation and insulation, use and contracting in building retrofits.

There were three projects to view as examples of retrofitted buildings. They ranged from mid-18th century to 1960s. Typical energy savings are reported to be in the range of 80%.

CONNECT Centre for Future Networks and Communications, Trinity College Dublin

CONNECT which is one of the five large scale research centres to be delivered through Science Foundation Ireland's (SFI) 'Research Centres Programme', has been awarded a share of the €245 million (€155 million from the Department of Jobs and €90 million cash and in-kind contribution from Industry) investment funding pot announced this month, by the Minister for Jobs Richard Bruton TD and Innovation Minister Damien English TD.

"The key challenges that face society all drive the need for new and varied forms of networked services. These include mobile Internet, connected health, smart agriculture, smart grids and metering, and environmental

monitoring services. The CONNECT Centre focuses on future broadband, cellular and Internet-of-Things networks on which all of these services will be enabled; thereby growing the economy and supporting society at large."

<http://www.sfi.ie/news-resources/press-releases/245-million-to-be-invested-in-five-new-world-class-sfi-research-centres-in-ireland.html>

ESB ends micro-generation pilot scheme

ESB Networks has ended a pilot scheme which allowed householders to receive 9 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of excess power produced from small turbines or solar panels. Householders will no longer be able to sell their excess energy back to the grid from 31st December next but ESB Networks will still continue to support its existing customers until 31st December 2015, by which stage the supports will come to an end.

The move comes as the company announced it has secured a €100m loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) to fund upgrades of the electricity network in the south east to allow more renewables on to the system. The ESB said that Electric Ireland was the only supplier to have such a scheme and it had run for five years.

Micro-generation covers small scale generators where domestic customers produce their own electricity and export the surplus onto ESB Networks LV System.

Examples of micro-generation technology are;

- Wind-power

- Photovoltaic
- Hydro
- Combined heat-and-power (CHP)

<https://www.electricireland.ie/ei/residential/price-plans/micro-generation-scheme.jsp>

Green Tech Week

A lot of discussion and activities around sustainable and innovative energy, where the GREAT project was central, took place at the Greentech Week in Arnhem on 9th October last. This event was co-organised by GreenTech Alliances and Oost NV.

The Techwatch Event centred on Smart Grid innovation and opportunities for international markets. During this session smart grid developments were presented from different perspectives, nml storage technology, control and management systems, sensors for energy and electricity monitoring at TSO, DSO level and energy monitoring software for business clients.

Additional to the varied range of presentations given by entrepreneurs and knowledge institutions, there was a lively discussion regarding the importance in identifying international market entries for the participating SME's.

Networking at the event proved to be successful, as useful contacts and possible future joint collaboration for project matching were made between attending companies.

A short impression on the event can be seen;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMP_nouGllk&list=UU47jvuEUTLm2J2def1uOWtg

Subsidies and Costs of E.U Energy -An Interim Report Commissioned by the European Commission Directorate General of Energy.

This report states that “the way energy markets function and the effect of government interventions in the European Union has been the subject of much debate in recent years

To date however, there has not been a complete dataset for the EU28 detailing the Government interventions in the energy market.

This report presents the results of a study commissioned by DG Energy to quantify the extent of public interventions in energy markets in all 28 Member States for all energy use excluding transport.

One of the reasons Governments have to intervene in energy markets is that the market does not adequately price external costs such as environmental damages.”

Interestingly, the findings in the report indicate solar is considerably more popular in comparison with other renewable energy resources and

that solar energy now receives the most government energy subsidies annually, surpassing fossil fuels at just under €15bn.

This study is the first to provide consistent data on energy costs and subsidies for all EU Member States and for all technologies.

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/studies/doc/20141013_subsidies_costs_eu_energy.pdf

Figure S – 7 below, which is based on data from 2012, presents levelised cost ranges per power generation technology. For example “levelised costs for electricity range from around €20/MWh for hydropower running a full load to €200/MWh for offshore wind and biomass plants running at realised loads.”

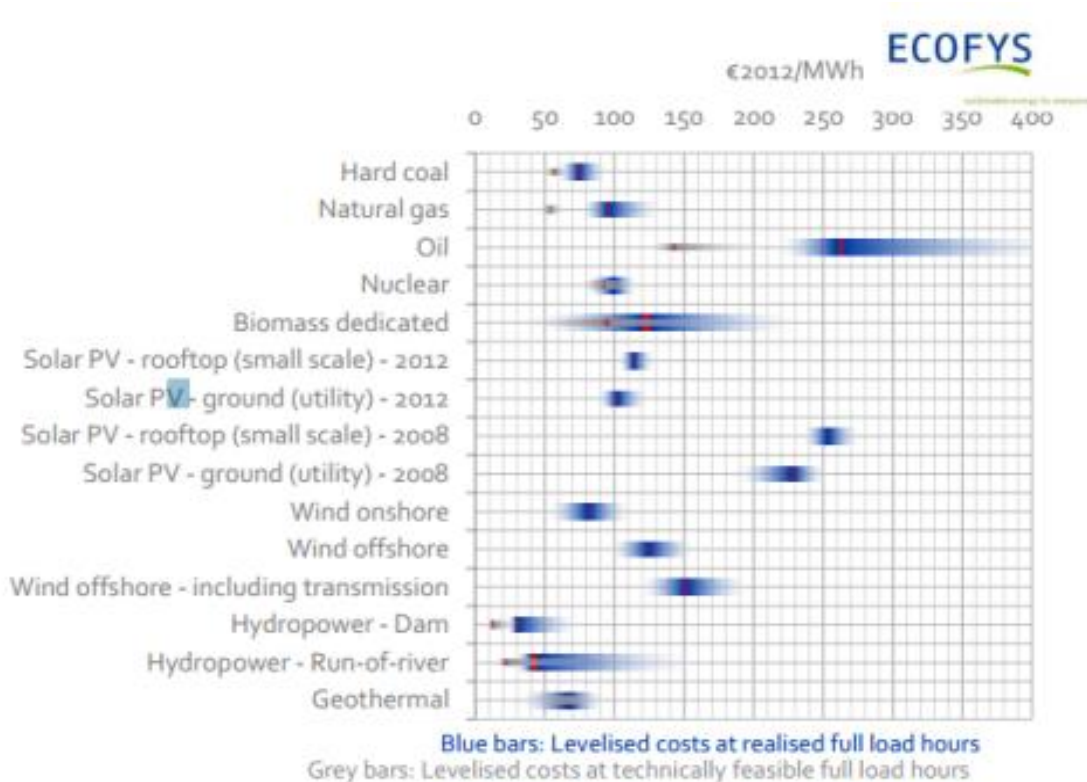


Figure S - 7: Levelised costs of energy in EU28 for electricity (in €2012/MWh)

Note: The red lines in the figure above represent the median value for the range