

Investing in Sustainable Hydro

- What is RES 2020 trying to achieve?
- The scale of the changes we need to make
- The need for small, local energy supplies
- Role for small hydropower

▶ The Committee of the Regions

A political assembly of the European Union, representing local and regional government.



EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions

► Why a Committee of the Regions ?

- ❖ **To give local and regional government a say over the drafting of EU legislation (70% of EU laws are implemented at local/regional level).**
- ❖ **To bring Europe closer to its citizens and to encourage a culture of subsidiarity.**
- ❖ **To provide a meeting place where regions and cities can share best practice and take part in a dialogue with the European institutions.**

► Appointment of CoR members

- ❖ **Local and regional representatives proposed by Member States.**
- ❖ **Formally appointed by the Council of the EU.**
- ❖ **Four-year renewable term of office**

► Plenary sessions



- ❖ Meeting of all CoR members.
- ❖ 5 times per year.
- ❖ Adoption of opinions and political debates

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The EU and Climate Change

- A key priority, environmental legislation (Landfill Directive, LATS, Waste Framework Directive, Emissions Trading, Energy Package)
- Impacts don't respect borders
- Many changes needed – globally rather than nationally
- EU has a powerful voice

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Package of Energy Legislation

- Open, competitive energy market
- Accessible for new technologies
- Fair to the consumer
- Security of supply
- Reduction of green house gas emissions
- Includes energy efficiency target of 20%

Renewable Energy Directive, Second Strategic Energy Review

Renewable Energy Directive

Draft in January 08, agreed through co-decision process December 08

- Overall target of 20% by 2020
- Plus 10% transport energy
- Each Member State has individual target
- Must produce national action plans by March 2010
- Priority grid access for renewables

Huge challenge – huge opportunity

The energy mix of the future

- Diverse, dispersed mix of generation, new technologies
- Power generated where its needed, reduced transmission losses
- Informed, smart consumption
- Comparison with internet evolution?

Changes will affect us all, businesses, residents, commuters, investors.

Opportunities

- New business opportunities – huge growth area
- Support schemes accessible to small installations
- Vital role for Local Councils
- New EU wide body “Covenant of Mayors” launched this week

Role for Small Hydropower

- Need to use all forms of renewables
- Use the natural resources available locally
- Many areas relied on energy from water in past years
- Modern form of a familiar technology readily acceptable

Key areas to watch

- Setting and implementing National Action Plans
- New technologies = new skills/info/training needs
- Grid access

If we get it right

All to play for –

- reduced GHG emissions
- security of supply
- technology development
- business and employment opportunities

Win, win, win, win!