

Dear member of the European Parliament,

5 December 2007

in 1997 the European Union started working towards a 12% target for the contribution from renewables to overall EU energy consumption by 2010. This 12% target is unlikely to be met. Based on current trends, the EU will not exceed 10% by 2010 according to the Commission's prognoses. In March this year the European Council adopted an overall binding target for the EU to generate 20% of total energy consumed in the EU from renewable sources by 2020. This target was confirmed by the European Parliament in resolution of 25 September 2007 'on the Road Map for Renewable Energy in Europe'. Today renewables only accounts for some 6-7% of the total energy consumption. Thus the 20% target is a very ambitious one and calls for a dramatic increase in the renewable energy capacity and output. The commission seems set to submit a proposal in December making the 20% target legal binding.

Dear MEP, we would like to inform you, that:

- small hydropower stations have an enormous negative effect on our waters and fish stocks. These installations contradicts with every environment protection and conservation measures, principles and intentions we can think of as laid down in the EU's environment regulations and directives (e.g. the Water Framework Directive and the Habitats Directive / Natura 2000).
- small hydropower stations contributes with very little to the EU total energy consumption. However, the installations in place today have an enormous negative impact on the biological diversity, the hydromorphology and the whole eco-system in the affected waters. Hydropower turbines every day kill and injure an incredible amount of fish. The loss of biomass compared to the low percentage of power supply from these installations makes absolutely no sense.

The EAA (European Angler's Alliance) represents approximately 5 millions organized anglers in Europe. In October EAA's General Assembly adopted a hydropower resolution. The resolution is enclosed in an effort to raise awareness that even hydropower is a renewable energy source per definition it shouldn't be considered as a 'green' energy source. Renewable energy sources are extremely important but please remember that some renewables are more 'green' than others and hydropower is not 'green' at all. Europe doesn't need more hydropower but less!

For further information as well as for a personal conversation we remain at your disposal.

Yours sincerely



Peter Mohnert
President EAA