

Press release

Brussels, 6 June 2008

## **Electrabel, SUEZ Group acquires 100% of the company GREAT, thereby strengthening its renewable energy generating facilities**

**On 11 April 2008, Electrabel signed the memorandum of acquisition for 100% of the shares of GREAT (General Renewable Energy and Technics), a company specialising in wind energy development. By completing this acquisition, Electrabel reaffirms the SUEZ Group's commitment to promoting renewable energy sources.**

GREAT has a wind farm of eight wind turbines with a total capacity of 10.4 MW in Fitou, in the French department of Aude. Through its subsidiary Alize Energie, the company also has a portfolio of wind projects with a 615 MW generation capacity that are being studied and/or developed.

In this way, Electrabel is strengthening its wind energy development potential in France, which perfectly complements the various projects conducted by La Compagnie du Vent, part of the SUEZ Group since November 2007. It also benefits from heightened expertise in terms of maintenance, through the specialised company ACCEL Conseil, a subsidiary of GREAT.

The acquisition of GREAT is an ideal fit with a voluntary initiative of the company: the intention to have 18% of its European generation capacity from renewable energy sources (wind, biomass, hydraulic, solar) as from 2009.

SUEZ, a market player committed to the promotion of sustainable development and renewable energy, has set itself the objective of having an additional capacity of 2,019 MW of wind power, 250 MW of hydraulic power and 235 MW of solar power at its disposal in France by 2014.

### **Electrabel, a European supplier of all-in, tailor-made energy solutions**

Electrabel is one of Europe's front-ranking energy companies and leader in the Benelux. It seizes the opportunity of the electricity and natural gas market deregulation to achieve sustainable growth in Europe while keeping to strict criteria of profitability.

The company develops its range of energy products and services by exploiting the synergies between electricity and natural gas. It offers a tailor-made solution for each customer, characterised by quality and close support, acting through marketing subsidiaries and partnerships with local operators.

The company manages a diversified range of generating facilities totalling more than 30,000 MW, and carries out trading on all the energy markets. In Belgium it operates the electricity and natural gas networks on behalf of distribution system operators.

Electrabel is part of SUEZ, an international industrial and services group that is active in energy and the environment.

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*Ce communiqué est également disponible en français.*

*Dit persbericht is ook beschikbaar in het Nederlands.*