

Brussels, 17 December 2009

## **No disturbances expected for electricity supply this winter**

***There is no reason to expect electricity disturbances this winter under normal weather conditions. This is the main conclusion of the report presented today by the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E) at the Electricity Cross-Border Committee meeting.***

Welcoming the coordinated approach of European electricity transport network operators Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs said: "Uninterrupted service to citizens and industry and rational use of resources available can be ensured only with good cooperation between European electricity companies. Information exchange between grid operators is also essential. Improved coordination shall reduce the risk of blackouts and help protect European consumers."

Commissioner Piebalgs had asked ENTSO-E to present today to the Electricity Cross-Border Committee<sup>1</sup> of the European Commission their analysis of the situation as well as the preparatory and coordination measures taken by their members in order to avoid or mitigate the impact of any potential disturbances in electricity supply this winter. The Commission also presented a consultation document which focuses on fair and non-discriminatory arrangements for Trans European cross-border power flows.

Even though no particular risk of shortage is expected for the winter under normal conditions, coordination between electricity network operators is very important in order to ensure effective real-time coordination of European grid operations. Electricity network operators shall receive immediately the information on the action taken by the affected network operators or generators.

The Electricity Cross-Border Committee meets twice a year and consists of representatives of EU Member states – ministries responsible for energy and energy regulators.

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<sup>1</sup> This Committee is set up by the Regulation (EC) No 1228/2003 on conditions for access to the network for cross-border exchanges in electricity (Article 13)