



Sustainability in the Dutch Power Sector

Fact Sheet Series

Windunie

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Windunie

1 Introduction

This series of fact sheets is designed to investigate the Dutch power sector and raise public awareness about the sustainability of power companies operating in the Netherlands. The series consists of ten company fact sheets and four thematic fact sheets, for a total of 14. The ten company fact sheets focus on ten of the Netherlands' leading power companies: DELTA, Electrabel, Eneco, E.ON, Essent, Greenchoice, Nuon, Oxxio, RWE, and Windunie. For each company, the fact sheet will contain information on four measures of sustainability: the company's current fuel mix for installed electricity generation capacity in Europe, current fuel mix of electricity supplied in the Netherlands, investments in new generating capacity in Europe, and initiatives to encourage consumers to become more sustainable in their energy use by conserving energy and reducing overall use (demand-side initiatives) in the Netherlands. The thematic fact sheets focus on these same four areas and compare the ten companies' performance in each area. Information for the fact sheets has been gathered from news articles and databases; company sources such as websites, annual reports and CSR reports; and personal interviews with the companies. All of the companies were given and used the opportunity to review a draft of their fact sheet, provide comments, and correct any factual errors. Funding for the fact sheets was provided by Greenpeace. All fact sheets in this series are available on the SOMO website at www.somo.nl.

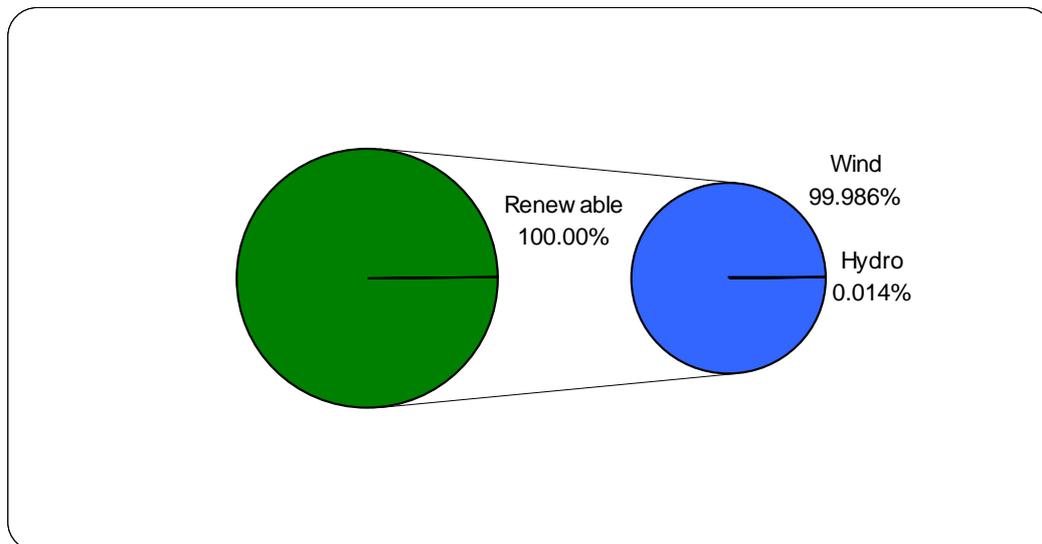
2 Basic company information

Windunie, founded in 2001, is a cooperative of wind turbine owners throughout the Netherlands. It is a cooperative under leadership of a management with complete entitlement to rights. By means of this collaboration, individual owners of wind turbines have the possibility to enter the energy market. Windunie supplies wind energy generated in the Netherlands to households and business clients. Windunie started in 2001 with 50 members, but that number increased to 231 members in mid-2008 and continues to rise.

3 Installed capacity for electricity generation in Europe

Figure 1 reveals the fuel mix of Windunie's electricity generation capacity in 2007. Windunie's installed capacity increased from 4 MW in 2001 to 396.325 MW in 2007, which is comprised wind power from the 380 wind turbines operated by its 231 members, as well as 0.055 MW from a small-scale hydro plant in the province of Limburg.

Figure 1: Fuel mix of Windunie's installed electricity generation capacity, 2007

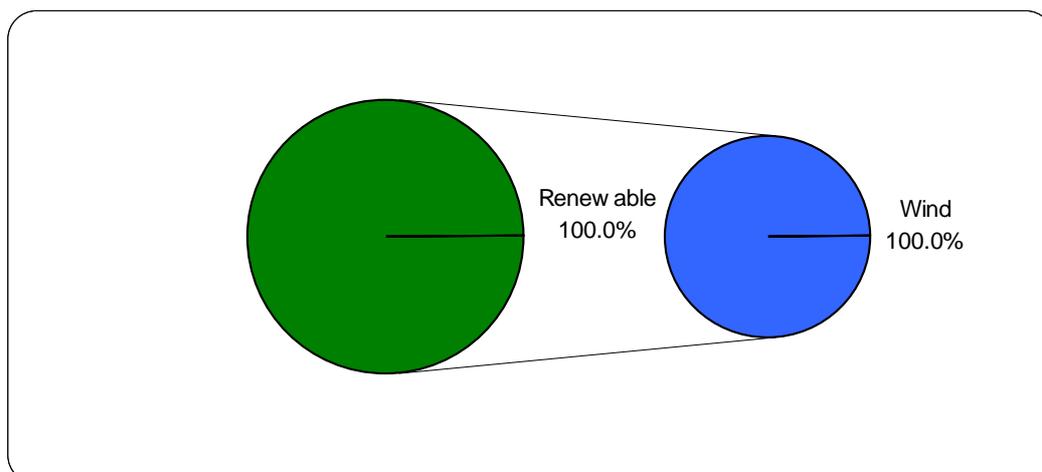


Based on: Windunie¹

4 Electricity supplied in the Netherlands

Figure 2 shows the fuel mix of energy supplied by Windunie in the Netherlands. Of the energy generated by Windunie members, 80% is sold by contract to Essent and lesser amounts to other electricity supply companies, including Greenchoice. Windunie is able to repurchase this electricity for the sale to Windunie clients, through the direct supplier Greenchoice. In 2006, Windunie started its own energy trading company (Windunie Trading). Windunie serves 60,000 households itself, but produces enough electricity for 235,000 households.²

Figure 2: Fuel mix of electricity supplied by Windunie, 2007



Based on: Windunie³

Table 1 presents the CO₂ emissions and radioactive waste production resulting from the generation of the electricity that Windunie supplies in the Netherlands. Because the electricity supplied by Windunie

comes from its own carbon- and nuclear-free generation, the company's electricity supply does not account for any radioactive waste or CO₂ emissions.

Table 1: Emissions and waste resulting from Windunie's electricity supply, 2007

Indicator	Amount
CO ₂ (g/kWh)	0
Radioactive waste (µg/kWh)	0

5 Announced investments in new generation capacity in Europe

In the case of Windunie, the individual members are the ones that invest in new generating capacity by the purchase of wind turbines. As indicated above, Windunie currently has 231 members with a total of 380 wind turbines, but the capacity is growing as new members join Windunie and existing members invest in new capacity. Windunie has indicated that a number of its members wish to invest in new production capacity but are waiting for permits to build.⁴

6 Demand-side initiatives

Windunie's demand-side initiatives include:

- Windunie offers its clients a guarantee of origin. This means that clients of Windunie can choose which turbine they want to purchase electricity from. About 5% of the Windunie clients take advantage of this opportunity.

¹ Windunie website, Klant worden, "Groene energie", no date, <http://www.windunie.nl/groen-energie.aspx> (28/07/08)

² S. Houppermans, Windunie, email to J. Wilde-Ramsing, 20-08-2008.

³ Windunie website, Klant worden, "Groene energie", no date, <http://www.windunie.nl/groen-energie.aspx> (28/07/08)

⁴ S. Houppermans, Windunie, email to J. Wilde-Ramsing, 20-08-2008.