

Electrabel plans to build three new electric power stations in the Netherlands

Electrabel is planning to build three new electric power stations with a maximum total capacity of 1600 MW in the Netherlands. Two of them will be gas-fired CCGT thermal power stations, built in Lelystad, and the other will be a coal-fired and biomass power station on the Maasvlakte in Rotterdam.

The two CCGT power stations, which will have a capacity of between 400 and 450 MW, could replace the two old Flevoland power stations. On 1 December, the environmental impact study and licence application will be submitted to the relevant authorities. A decision on the investment in these two new power stations is expected in summer 2006. The first power station would be expected to come on stream in early 2009, the second a few years later.

The coal/biomass plant in Rotterdam, with a maximum capacity of 600 to 800 MW, should enable Electrabel to generate, next to coal, biomass on a large scale. The decision whether to invest is expected during 2007, aiming at the plant to be operational in 2011-2012.

These projects, in addition to the recent announcement of the investment in a new CCGT unit in Belgium (Amercoeur) and both the planned investments in projects to assure new production capacity in France on the short term (such as the participation in the EPR, CCGT-units and renewable energy) confirm Electrabel's ambition to remain one of top European energy operators.

Electrabel, European provider of global and tailor-made energy solutions

Electrabel is one of the top Energy companies in Europe and the outright leader in the Benelux countries. It is seizing on the opportunities created by the opening up of the energy and natural gas markets to ensure its sustainable growth in Europe, whilst respecting stringent profitability criteria.

The company is developing its range of energy products and services by drawing on synergies between the electricity and natural gas sectors. Thanks to its marketing subsidiaries and partnerships with local operators, it can offer all its customers a high-quality local service.

Electrabel operates a diverse range of generation facilities producing an output in excess of 29,000 MW and is also an active player in all energy trading markets. At the request of the relevant distribution system operators, it runs Belgium's electricity and natural gas networks.

Electrabel is part of SUEZ, an international industrial group and service provider active in the energy and environmental sector.

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Dit persbericht is ook beschikbaar in het Nederlands.

Ce communiqué est également disponible en français.

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