

Press Release 08/08

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Marketing of Electricity from Distributed Generation – European Project seeks for New Solutions

Fraunhofer ISE started project within the „Intelligent Energy – Europe“ Programme

Press Release "Marketing of Electricity from Distributed Generation" PDF file

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In a new project funded by the European Union, researchers at the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE investigate options for producing electricity from distributed and sustainable energy sources in a cost-effective and demand driven way. Focus will be put on the integration into the liberalised European electricity markets and the investigation of the relations between the different market participants.

In Europe, and especially in Germany, this approach becomes increasingly important, since more and more renewable energy systems and (environmentally friendly) decentralised CHP units feed electricity into the grids. "CHP, photovoltaic systems or wind generators need to become competitive on the electricity markets – and they can in the long run," so the opinion of the project manager Thomas Erge from Fraunhofer ISE. "For this, the different distributed generation units, often located near the electrical consumers, must combine and play out their individual technological strengths and operate as a team."

In practice, teamwork means that a number of small and medium size distributed generators virtually combine their electricity output to create the volume and quality of such power market products, making them able to compete on the same scale as larger conventional power plants. Scientific prognoses for fluctuating resources as well as intelligent generation and load management make possible that fluctuating generation technologies like photovoltaics become part of the power plant ensemble.

In the research project MASSIG (Market Access for Smaller Size Intelligent Electricity Generation) seven partners from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain and Poland joined their efforts to elaborate technical and economic concepts for market access of distributed generation. The project will run until April 2010. One major goal of the project is to show owners and operators of smaller size, environmentally friendly power plants, how to stand up to the big shots on the electricity markets.

Results of the project work will be published **here**

