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**Press Release for Immediate Use**

## **New REF Data Indicates EU Targets Unattainable**

On its updated website the Renewable Energy Foundation is tomorrow publishing the latest monthly generation statistics for all 900 UK renewable electricity generators operating under the Renewables Obligation. This latest set covers the period April 2002 to June 2007.

This resource, which is rapidly becoming an industry standard, makes this data readily available and intelligible, and is provided free of charge.

The results are of growing relevance in the light of the EU Commission's proposal for 20% of EU final energy consumption to come from renewables by 2020. This requires the UK to go from 1.3% at present to 15% in 2020, and probably entails a UK target for electricity of between 30 and 40%.

The picture now emerging from REF's data makes it abundantly clear that these targets will be extremely difficult to obtain at reasonable cost to the consumer and the UK economy.

Load factors for onshore wind remain low and significantly below the industry projections which guided policy in the late 1990s. Seasonal and annual variations are significant.

Campbell Dunford, CEO of REF said: “We are on the verge of a new order in world energy markets, but if renewables are to make a valuable contribution we need to take a cold-hearted look at the facts of the matter. There is a backlash building up, on the grounds of simple cost, and spin is the last thing this infant industry needs.”

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Note to Editors. REF is a UK registered charity supported by private donation; it accepts no corporate sponsorship or political affiliation.