



## Media Release

Wind power production in Germany and Italy

### **Energie Wasser Bern and BKW found joint venture and acquire wind farm in Germany**

Berne, 23 March 2010

**Energie Wasser Bern and BKW FMB Energy Ltd (BKW) have entered into a strategic partnership and founded the joint venture HelveticWind. The aim of the partnership is to build up a wind power portfolio in excess of 100 MW over the next few years. BKW and Energie Wasser Bern are therefore now collaborating closely on wind power as well as hydropower.**

Both partners want to drive forward the use of wind power and implement projects with a total capacity of at least 100 Megawatts (MW). With this in mind, the partners have entered into a 50/50 joint venture, and in a first step founded HelveticWind Deutschland GmbH. The activities will initially focus on Germany and Italy.

This is an important cooperation for both partners. It will enable BKW to consolidate its position in the wind power area. For Energie Wasser Bern it represents the most significant involvement in wind power and its first foray into activities abroad. In keeping with the new production strategy, Energie Wasser Bern is therefore expanding capacities in the field of renewable energies.

In parallel with the foundation of HelveticWind, Energie Wasser Bern and BKW have acquired a wind farm. The Sendenhorst wind farm has been in operation since 2005 and is located near the city of Münster in Nordrhein-Westfalen. This region benefits from the regular availability of high winds. With a capacity of 14.5 MW and some 2,000 full-load hours, the wind farm generates around 29 million kilowatt hours of carbon-neutral electricity per year. This corresponds to the annual power consumption of around 8,000 households. The partners have agreed not to disclose the investment costs.

#### **Further information**

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